

*Layton Yancey*

# **AUGUSTA HISTORICAL BULLETIN**



**AUGUSTA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**VOLUME 21**

**FALL 1985**

**NUMBER 2**

# AUGUSTA COUNTY HISTORICAL

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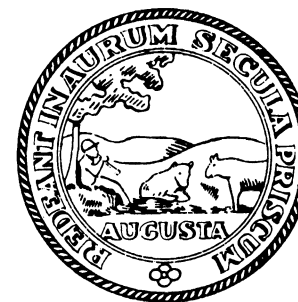
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# AUGUSTA HISTORICAL BULLETIN

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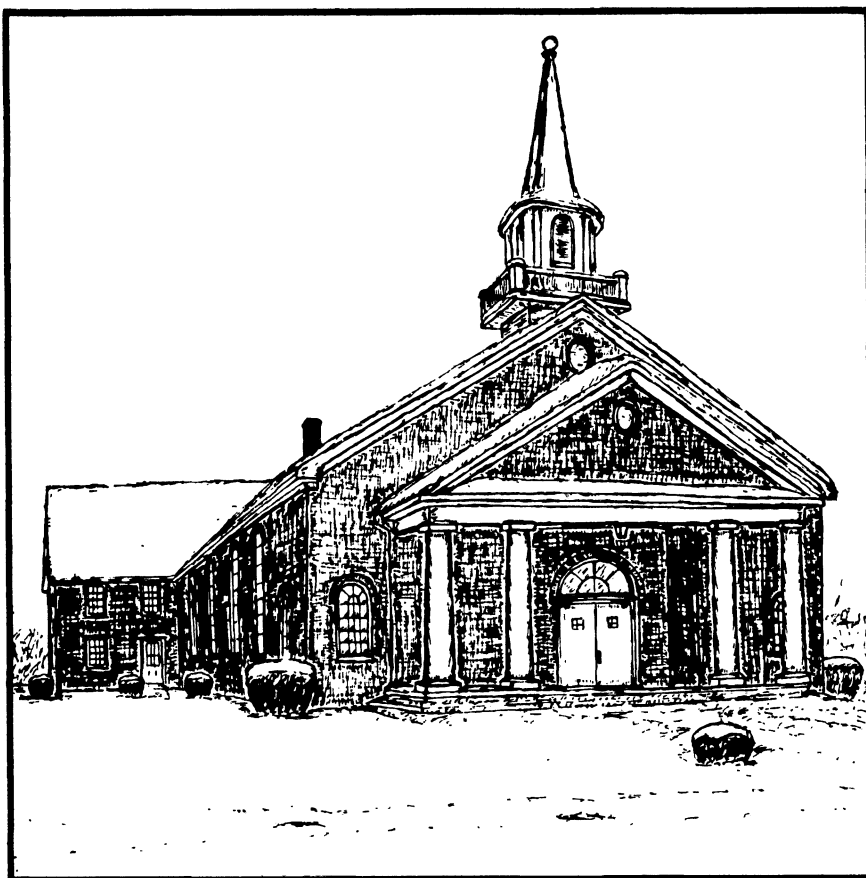
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A purpose of the Augusta County Historical Society is to publish *Augusta Historical Bulletin* to be sent without charge to all members. Single issues are available at \$4.00 per copy.

The membership of the society is composed of annual and life members who pay the following dues:

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**Laurel Hill Baptist Church**  
Route 1, Box 169  
Verona, Virginia  
24482



**Oldest Baptist Congregation  
in Augusta County  
Organized in 1851**

**HISTORY OF THE  
LAUREL HILL BAPTIST CHURCH**

By

Sally O. and Wayne D. Hannah

"In the beginning God created. . ." Where the actual seed was first planted is often hard to determine. Near the middle of the nineteenth century, the Virginia Baptist General Association, with the help of concerned individuals from the Albemarle Baptist Association, sought to plant the Baptist faith across the Blue Ridge Mountains in Augusta County.

A group of people holding to the Baptist faith began meeting in Waynesboro in 1838 as the Waynesborough (sic) Baptist Church. Within twelve years this group had grown to seventy-one; yet a meeting house was never constructed. Three men from the New Hope area — James Borden, Enoch Coffman and Cyrus Fry — were active in this group. By 1853 the Waynesboro group had been disbanded.

Elder Thomas Roberts, a missionary of the State Mission Board, had been preaching occasionally in the New Hope area as early as 1844. It is known that on November 5, 1844 he preached in the home of Enoch Aldhizer.<sup>1</sup> That home is still standing on Meadow Run on the old Route 612. New Hope is located about ten miles from Waynesboro. By 1849 an actual ministry had developed which culminated in the formation of the Laurel Hill Baptist Church—the first Baptist church in Augusta County.

The 1850 Albemarle Baptist Association annual recorded the following:

*"Since your last session some interest has still prevailed on the subject of religion. Ten miles from Waynesborough. . . we have considerable interest. We expect soon to have a comfortable house of worship built. . . We flatter ourselves that our brethren in Eastern Virginia will aid us. . . the Baptist do not now own a house of divine worship in the large county of Augusta. We say this to our shame."<sup>2</sup>*

Much was accomplished within the next year as can be ascertained by Roberts' report to the Virginia Baptist General Board in June, 1851.

*"A few days ago, I had the privilege of baptizing six candidates in Augusta. . . I expect to return. . . in about ten days, with one or two other ministers to dedicate our new house of worship, which will be completed, organize a church and conduct a protracted meeting."<sup>3</sup>*

There is no definite reason discovered as to why it was about eight weeks before he returned; although it is known that he fell from his buggy and was injured so that he could not carry on his work for a while. We are not sure whether the buggy accident occurred during this period or earlier in his ministry to the Laurel Hill area. At any rate he promised to return and return he did.

It is interesting to pause and consider the events taking place around us at this time. Virginia had a new Constitution this year. Staunton had two weekly newspapers. Coffee sold locally for 12½ cents per pound and a sofa could be purchased for twenty-five dollars.<sup>4</sup>

Thirty-four people including Brethren Borden, Coffman and Fry, gathered on Monday, July 28, 1851 to constitute Laurel Hill Baptist Church. In this day of hurried lives, it is of interest to note that busy farmers would take the time out of their schedules to attend the Lord's important business of establishing a new church. Most likely, Monday was chosen as the day for the constituting meeting out of reverence for the Lord's Day; for no work or legal matters were done on the day that was set aside for the worship of God. An interesting side-note on this date is that the Governor of Virginia, John Buchanan Floyd, was in Staunton that day to visit the state institutions and plans were made also on that day as to how to welcome President Fillmore when he visited the area on August 9, 1851.

The constituting presbytery consisted of John S. Massey — missionary of the Virginia Baptist General Association and the only Baptist minister between Winchester and Lexington, Thomas W. Roberts and a licensed preacher — William S. Perry (who led in organizing the Mt. Crawford and Bridgewater Baptist churches). Also on the agenda of the day were the approving of the church covenant and the by-laws (known as "Rules of Decorum"). The membership was open to all ". . . who shall have given satisfactory evidence of repentance towards God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and have been baptized (that is, immersed) in an orderly manner in the name of the Sacred Three, as directed by our Lord; and such persons are entitled to continued church fellowship; as long as they are considered not guilty of unchristian conduct; and maintain no serious error to the troubling of the church and the injury of the cause of religion."<sup>5</sup>

Peter C. Hoge was elected the first pastor. He was assisted from time to time by others because of his strenuous schedule. In addition to serving as pastor of Laurel Hill, he was the missionary for Augusta, Albemarle and Nelson counties.

From the beginning the church was mission minded. One of the first sermons preached was on Domestic Missions (in our country) and following the sermon a committee of ten (including three women) was appointed to collect monies from the members for missions. In late 1852 Reverend Hoge had to resign due to the pressure of his other duties.

Thomas W. Roberts — the same man who helped form the church — became the second pastor. A few years earlier, Roberts had conducted the first baptismal service in Augusta County. He described that occasion in his journal.

*"A large crowd assembled on either side of river to witness the novel sight but there was no disturbance; the crowd behaved with perfect decorum, but there was no singing."<sup>6</sup>*

The pastor's salary was raised by subscription in addition to the regular weekly offering. Two men were appointed each year to collect the pastor's salary, and each year the church voted on whether to ask the pastor to remain another year. It is recorded that on one occasion, a member who had pledged a portion of the pastor's salary, became disgruntled and demanded his part of the salary for the past two years to be returned.

The mission spirit was seen again in 1854 when a motion was passed "to write letters of dismissal for such members as wish to unite with the Staunton church."<sup>7</sup> Many members lived in Staunton (about ten miles from the church) which was quite a journey in those days. The major portion of the original members of the First Baptist Church of Staunton were from Laurel Hill. Although this church did not formally assist in the establishment of the Staunton church, it helped to lay the foundation for most of the early leadership.

The first and third (present) buildings were built on property given in February of 1851 by Henry and Margaret Deffenbaugh. When the property was deeded in July, 1854, it was done with the understanding that "the original lot had been given as a place of worship for the Baptist and was to be used as such as long as they desired; it was to revert back to the heirs of Henry Deffenbaugh once the Baptists cease to use the land."<sup>8</sup> Four additional tracts were bought through the years. One of these additional lots provided space for a cemetery.

Perhaps the most notable graves are the five Moses graves. Grandma Moses, the well-known artist, lived in the area for several years following her marriage. She had ten children, but five died quite young and are buried in the Laurel Hill cemetery, marked with one very small headstone that simply reads "Moses' Babies".

Quite early (at least 1855) protracted meetings were held on an annual basis. Excerpts from some of the annual reports from the church to the Association are note-worthy.

*"Since your last meeting, we have much cause for gratitude to God for his goodness to us. We held a protracted meeting last fall, aided by Elder T. N. Johnson and our pastor, which resulted in about twenty-four conversions. Our congregations are still large and much interested — so large that we have found it necessary to add to the size of our house. The addition is now nearly completed."<sup>9</sup>*

*"Last fall we had a meeting of days, in which much interest was manifested and quite a number connected themselves with the church. Our little band is increasing slowly and is passing through many trials and conflicts. The churches in Eastern Virginia know but little of the trials we are called upon to endure in the Valley."<sup>10</sup>*

When V. T. Settle became the third pastor, services were held every third Sunday and the Saturday before. The Saturday service was usually the one when business sessions were held — either prior to the preaching or after.

Laurel Hill licensed and, in some cases, ordained several during her first few years; including Isaac Myers, John Richardson, Cyrus Fry, Wm. T. Yarbrough and John Hamner.

During this time the church also gave partial support to one and sometimes two colporters. One of these was Cyrus Fry, who was also the Church Clerk and served as Associational clerk for several years. He was the fifth pastor and a Sunday School agent, under the joint auspices of the church and the Virginia Baptist General Association. He labored in Augusta, Rockbridge, Rockingham and Bath counties. He began the ministry at

South Bottom (now Vesuvius) and helped form the work at Clifton Forge. He served as chaplain to T. J. (Stonewall) Jackson's troops in the Staunton vicinity in 1862. Jackson provided him with a passport giving free access among the army camps. It has been quoted that when Jackson was introduced to Fry he said: "You're more than welcome to my camps and it will afford me the greatest pleasure to do anything in my power to help your work. I'm more anxious than I can express that our soldiers should be good soldiers of the Cross as well as good soldiers of their country."<sup>11</sup>

Following the war, Fry continued to labor as a colporter, distributing Bibles and other Christian literature and aiding in the beginning of Sunday schools.

Not long before the Civil War, the education of Negroes was strictly forbidden by law. However, in 1860, Laurel Hill "agreed to devote one Sabbath evening each month to the instruction of colored persons."<sup>12</sup> Colored people had been welcome from the very beginning as the original records show seventeen charter Negro members. A Sunday School was held for them until 1867 when they formed their own church which is believed to have been the Mount Bethel Baptist Church in New Hope. Some of Laurel Hill's early pulpit furniture is still in use in that church.

There is not very much recorded about this area during the Civil War years, even though the Battle of Piedmont was fought nearby, in 1864. For many months there is nothing recorded in the church minutes. Thanks to the annual letter sent by the Clerk, we have a little clearer picture of the church through those years.

*"We are sorry that we have so little to cheer the hearts of our eastern brethren; yet I feel thankful for past blessings, and hope that the cloud that now hovers over our Southern Confederacy, may be soon dispersed, and that the Kingdom of Christ may soon 'cover the earth as the waters cover the deep' . . . there is not much zeal and perseverance in the cause of Christ by our brethren as should be, owing to our membership's being scattered over the county. You brethren of Eastern Virginia know but little of the difficulties and trials that we have to contend with in the Valley of Virginia, separated as we are, 'like lost sheep without a shepherd.'"<sup>13</sup>*

It is a known fact that "the Confederate Congress passed a conscription act requiring all men between 18 and 45 to serve in the Confederate Army. This law was passed April 16, 1862 . . . with an exemption for ministers in the regular discharge of their duties."<sup>14</sup> Staunton was threatened with attack at least twice in 1863<sup>15</sup> and the people were unable to meet together very much during this period.

This church and this area were affected by the Civil War. For the most part, the Battle of Piedmont centered along present Virginia routes 608 (New Hope and Piedmont) and 612, with the main battle taking place between New Hope and Piedmont. That area is marked with a monument. Route 612 was used as a main route to Route 11 and people along the road took great precautionary measures. One such incidence took place over the bluff behind the Weller home. Horses and valuables were hidden down near the river in a section called Egypt, so the troops would not find them. Some of the silverware, etc. may still be buried in that vicinity.

Below is an account that appeared in the newspaper concerning one of our members, George Washington Crickenberger, at the time of his death in 1913.

*"Battle Between the Confederate Army at Piedmont — June 5, 1864. Mr. Crickenberger saw valiant service during the War, although he was one of the youngest men enlisted in the Confederate Army. . . it was there that he fired the shot which, it is said, did more execution than any other during the entire war. He served in McClanahan's Battery and was under Lieutenant Pollet at Piedmont. The position of his gun was on the advance centerline, and the advance was towards New Hope. After firing the famous discharge, when it was evident that the battle was lost, Mr. Crickenberger in the face of terrible infantry fire, spiked his gun and cut the spokes of the carriage wheels in order to prevent the Federals from turning the gun on the retreating Confederates. It is said by some of the oldest inhabitants of this vicinity that he had his gun loaded to the muzzle with grape shot, which was the reason that the discharge did such terrible execution."<sup>16</sup>*

Another interesting fact about Mr. Crickenberger was that his sons were named alphabetically. This list was given in Ripley's BELIEVE IT OR NOT and appeared in a Ripley newspaper article. The listing of the sons' names is as follows: "Arthur Benton, Clinton Dewitt, Earl Floyd, George Herman, Ira Jethro, Kenney Luther, Minor Newton"<sup>17</sup>. He also had six daughters and if he had named them the same way, there would have been a name for every letter in the alphabet.

The first record of our church being on a joint field with the Mount Crawford Church or any other church was in 1864 when Brother Settle served both churches. The Mount Crawford Church had been organized about 1841 and was disbanded by 1934. This description of the church was given in the 1955 Augusta Baptist Association Annual: ". . . church stood at northeast end of the town on the East side of the Valley Pike. The site may be identified by the graveyard and a small grove of trees."<sup>18</sup> In 1906 this church was relocated outside the town proper. This second building is still standing and is used by the Mennonites.

In 1869 John Henry Taylor became the eighth pastor. He was to serve a little more than thirty years, during four different pastorates. Taylor may well have been called Mr. Baptist in this area as he served as pastor or interim pastor in at least fifteen churches in the Augusta Association. His energy was boundless and he also possessed a great sense of humor as can be verified by this verse -attributed to him- found in the back of his personal hymnal.

*"As I went up the Laurel Hill road  
I saw a Tarpin (sic) and a Toad  
Everytime the Toad would jump  
The Tarpin (sic) would dodge behind a stump.  
W. Spearshake - May 16, 1897"<sup>19</sup>*

Membership at the quarter-century mark was eighty-seven with forty-five in Sunday School and fourteen teachers.

Church discipline was still important. Members were expected to be present at worship and business meetings. At one time it was recorded that the roll be read at each business session and a record kept of all absentees.

After a twelve month absence, an individual would be visited and his reason for absence ascertained. At other times, members would be chastized for unChristian conduct, and, sometimes, be dismissed from the fellowship for actions unbecoming a Christian.

Looking at our area in this period, we find that in 1870 Virginia had been readmitted to the Union. Our state was smaller because of West Virginia being formed. James L. Kemper was our thirty-ninth governor. The state also had organized a public school system in 1870 and a new institution of high learning in 1872. She was a poor state, not having recovered from the destruction of the Civil War. "Virginia was too poor to take part in the Exposition in Philadelphia in 1876, but held her own three-day celebration in 1881 to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Cornwallis' surrender at Yorktown."<sup>20</sup>

Trains had been running to Staunton from Harrisonburg twice a day for about three years.<sup>21</sup> There were at least two local weekly papers. Bacon sold for thirteen cents per pound and butter was selling for twenty cents per pound. Summer vacations with pay were beginning to catch on.

In 1876, the City of Staunton "purchased a 30.38 acre tract of land for \$16,000 from the Donaghe Estate to be used as Staunton's water supply. This became a municipal park; given the name of Gypsy Hill as it had been a favorite camping place of the gypsies in their yearly migration through the Valley."<sup>22</sup>

The Woman's Missionary Union was begun by the pastor, Reverend Thomas R. Corr in 1894, although women had been meeting in various homes off and on for years to attend to mission work.

An interesting story is told about the offering for Foreign Mission in 1911. Mrs. Sallie Myers contributed a dollar gold piece, which had been a gift from her mother, who had received it as a gift from a sister. Mrs. Myers had kept it for twenty-six years as an heirloom, but in 1911 she said; "It has been idle long enough. Now, I want it to be used in the Master's service as a two fold gift from my aunt and myself."<sup>23</sup>

When the second church building was dedicated in 1887, the following notes were made:

*"A large congregation greeted the speaker on that occasion. An old resident who was present relates that Dr. George B. Taylor...preached the sermon from the text: 'She hath done what she could'. . .About the end of that year, the old church building was sold for \$61.00 and the money applied toward paying for the new building."<sup>24</sup>*

The church has had three parsonages. The first was purchased in 1888 and sold in 1941, when the second home was built on the same location. The old parsonage had been sold to a man in the Round Hill area who dismantled it, piece by piece, and reassembled it on his lot. He is still living in it and it is very well kept. When telling about this feat, he makes the listener aware that he had little education, not much knowledge of carpentry and did have to replace a few boards. The present parsonage was constructed in 1979. The former parsonage was sold and the money from that sale, coupled with the

amount already in the Building Fund, made it possible to have the entire cost of the new parsonage paid off within four months.

By 1891, Laurel Hill reported two Sunday Schools. The second was most likely in the Stuarts Draft area. Stuarts Draft Baptist Church was a mission of Laurel Hill and was constituted in 1894.

As the church looked forward to the second half of the first hundred years, the membership stood at 201 with 111 enrolled in Sunday School, and the annual pastor's salary was \$575.

What about Virginia at the turn of the century? James Hoge Taylor, a Democrat, was the state's forty-fifth governor. Smallpox was in epidemic proportions. Virginia was become industrialized with the building of cigarette factories, cotton textile plants, and shipbuilding industries, to name a few.

Telephones were becoming popular; although neither the church nor parsonage had installed one until 1909, when some of the members took up a collection to pay the cost of installation.

In our area about the biggest news was the complete destruction of the recently completed, exclusive Homestead, at Hot Springs, by fire in June, 1901. The second biggest news—to some at least—was the beginning of organized baseball for the young boys in the County of Augusta.

Local advertisements and prices are of some interest. Hires Root Beer was advertised as the Nation's Temperance Beverage. One could have a tooth extracted for a quarter, purchase a Kodak camera for as little as five dollars or as much as thirty-five dollars, paper the walls of one's home for three cents a roll, or rock to one's heart's content in a new rocker for seventy-five cents. A bicycle cost sixteen to twenty-four dollars; shoes were two or three dollars; ice was sold at fifty cents for one hundred pounds; milk at six cents a quart; twelve cents a pound for round steak; eggs at twelve cents a pound and butter for eleven cents per pound.

Many times the church was called upon to help the needy: in and out of the church membership. Several times during the early 1900's mention has been made in the Minutes of Brother or Sister \_\_\_\_\_ being the recipient of rent money, wood, insurance premiums, food, etc. The help was also extended to other churches such as Williamsville or Mt. Crawford.

Laurel Hill has always treated her ministers and their families very well. Mrs. A.C. Walker, wife of the fifteenth pastor expressed it this way. "In this church were many capable, intelligent women, who were much older than I and who were a great help to a young minister's wife. . . (they) were good leaders, not depending on the pastor's wife to lead them."<sup>25</sup> Even though the church could not always afford to pay a living wage, it was compensated for in other ways. "The church added to this amount through the best poundings one ever saw. . . ham, bacon, lard, sugar, barrel of flour, coffee, vegetables of all kinds, cakes, pies, breads, cooked and uncooked fowl, all kinds of butter, (apple, cherry, peach and cow), bales of hay, bushels of wheat, rye and oats, barrels of corn and on and on. . ."<sup>26</sup>

W. B. Carter became pastor in 1922 and remained until 1941. His tenure as pastor was the longest single pastorate and second only to John H. Taylor in total length. His wife was instrumental in helping the Woman's Missionary Union be totally organized so that it attained an A-1 rating for many years in the Southern Baptist Convention.

In the 1926 Augusta Association Annual, Laurel Hill was cited as one of twelve churches constituted prior to 1860 in that Association. The Association celebrated its Fiftieth Anniversary that year and a short historical sketch of that Association is found within that Annual. Laurel Hill had hosted the first Annual meeting of the Augusta Association and had been a part of the Albemarle Baptist Association until that time.

In the Diamond Anniversary year, Laurel Hill reported that there were 195 in Sunday School, 190 on the church membership roll, all Youth organizations were functioning, over \$750 had been given to the Cooperative Program, and total expenditures for the year were \$2344.32.

Henry Flood Byrd was the fifty-second governor at this time. He tried to keep the utilities from effecting higher rates, raised the gasoline tax, lowered automobile tax and was responsible for establishing service stations<sup>27</sup> - something we take very much for granted.

Locally, the Tuesday before our church celebrated its Seventy-fifth Anniversary, the area was hit by a terrific hail storm, followed by some much needed rain. It had been extremely dry during the summer and people were really having a hard time with their crops. Then along came the hailstorm and ruined the orchards, cornfields, and gardens. After that came the rain.<sup>28</sup>

Baking powder sold for a penny an ounce, buttermilk was twenty cents a gallon, eggs were twenty-seven cents a dozen (they were no longer sold by the pound), silk hosiery for a dollar and a half per pair.

Sometime within the next few years, according to the testimony of several, there were stoves in the front of the church—one on each side. For quite a while these stoves presented a problem for the church, as a whole, and a source of amusement for the children. During the course of the morning service—and the evening one, too, at times—one or the other of the pipes would fall, causing the church to be filled with smoke. The pipes were too hot to touch, so nothing could be done until they cooled. This seemed to happen more times than not, during the sermon. Everyone would sit and suffer—not because of the preaching but because of the smoke. This took place before the men and women began to sit together in church. The men and older boys sat on the right and the women and children on the left. Some of the children and older boys, too, would make verbal bets about which of the pipes would fall first.

"In 1928 the church building was remodeled, new classrooms added for Sunday School and in August of that year there was a great Homecoming."<sup>29</sup> The entire renovations totaled several thousand dollars and was paid off within five years, even though these were very difficult times, financially.

In the newspaper on Saturday, March 21, 1936 there was an article with the dateline of "Laurel Hill - 3/20/36".

*"... The heavy rains of Tuesday did considerable damage in this section; Middle River, which is usually so peaceful was far out of banks. It swept away two footbridges just below the church, thus cutting off two families from this part of the neighborhood. . . On W. T. Batten's farm, the high water from Christian's Creek entered his garage and damaged both his car and truck, besides washing away part of his wagon. Added to this was the loss of a valuable horse which died Saturday night. School buses were driven with extra precaution, but without serious damage. Residents have had no electric lights for two nights. . . " (Ed. note: The Battens were members of Laurel Hill Church.)<sup>30</sup>*

In 1938 Laurel Hill held a Daily Vacation Bible School for the first time. We were one of only ten churches in our association to have one. Unfortunately, there is no record of the number attending.

Deaconesses were appointed for the first of two times in 1942. The duties of the deaconesses were: to help with the Baptism services, by assisting the women candidates; to prepare the Lord's Supper; to feed and house guest speakers; and to lead in prayer meeting when called upon. They met prior to the services for prayer. Now there is a Baptism Committee comprised of men and women; the deacons' wives prepare the Lord's Supper; deacons lead the prayer service in the absence of the pastor; the guest speakers usually stay with the pastor and everyone has a chance to feed the guest speakers.

Laurel Hill was very fortunate during the Second World War, as she had twenty-three men and women in the Armed Forces and all returned safely.

There was a splendid Centennial Celebration marking the 100th Anniversary of Laurel Hill. The Baptist Bookstore had a display and members were encouraged to buy books for the revitalized church library. A lovely Centennial booklet was written by Walter and Maude Early Kerr. A church plate was also available for purchase.

Perhaps, the greatest local news of our Centennial year-1951- was the opening of the new, modern building of King's Daughters' Hospital in Staunton.

In the past quarter plus century, Laurel Hill has continued to progress. Growth has been experienced in all areas of the church. There has been a third building erected (1957) on the original location. Membership is over 350 and all organizations are functioning.

Before bringing this to a close, a listing of all the pastors is necessary. This lists includes: Peter C. Hoge (1851-52), Thomas W. Roberts (1852-56), Vincent Thomas Settle (1856-64), John A. Wright (1864-65), Cyrus Franklin Fry (1865-66), Augustus Beverly Woodfin (1866-68), Joseph E. Chambliss (1868-69), John Henry Taylor (1869-70, 1873-93, 1899-1905, 1915-16), John English (1871-72), Thomas R. Corr (1893-95), William T. Jones (1895-99), John Alexander Barker (1905-12), Alexander Crossfield Walker (1913-15), T. Yates Seymour (1916-21), W. J. Yeaman (1921-22), Willard Brooke Carter (1922-42), Harold C. Zicafoose (1942-45), Lester C. Ross (1945-49),



Thurman R. Spell (1949-50), Latt Beshears (1951-52), Thomas J. Larkin (1952-54), Karl L. Kline (1954-56), Clyde Duane Sears (1957-61), Charles Boyer, Jr. (1962-71), Wayne Darnell Hannah (1972-Present).

The Centennial history ended with these words, which are still proper in expressing a tribute to Laurel Hill Baptist Church:

*"Laurel Hill, Hail! Pioneer Baptist Church of Augusta! Some have grown larger in membership but none has outstripped you in piety, devotion, or missionary fervor. May you ever be "First" in sending the message of God's love and redemptive power to save from sin to all the world."*<sup>31</sup>

#### Footnotes

1. Unpublished manuscript of Laurel Hill Community — R. E. Alley.
2. Albemarle Baptist Association annual — 1850.
3. Unpublished manuscript by R. E. Alley.
4. *The Staunton Spectator* — Staunton, Virginia — issue of June 18, 1851.
5. Virginia Baptist General Association Annual — 1851.
6. Taylor's VIRGINIA BAPTIST MINISTERS.
7. Church Minutes — Book 1.
8. Unpublished manuscript — Robert E. Alley.
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## THE SOUTHERN DILEMMA: THE AUGUSTA-ROCKINGHAM AREA AS A MIRROR TO VIRGINIA'S STRUGGLE OVER SLAVERY IN THE 1830s

By

Tom Blair

In the summer of 1831, an uneasy silence on the issue of slavery hung over Virginia.<sup>1</sup> Since Gabriel's Insurrection in 1800, Virginians, by a sort of unspoken agreement, had avoided any public discussion of slavery which might have aggravated the potentially explosive problem.<sup>2</sup> However, on an August night in 1831, a slave in Southhampton County shattered this uneasy silence.<sup>3</sup> After Sunday evening church services, Nat Turner led six disciples into his master's bedroom and plunged a hatchet into the man.<sup>4</sup> Turner and his followers murdered the rest of the master's family and, after being joined by fifty or more recruits, went on a murderous rampage that left fifty-five dead, including many women and children.<sup>5</sup> This incident, the most horrible slaughter ever committed by Negro slaves in the United States, sent waves of fear throughout the slave owners of the state and brought about a great public debate on the slavery question.<sup>6</sup> The complex attitudes that were debated from 1830 to 1840 as Virginians tried to find a workable solution to the slavery problem are evident in two petitions from the Augusta-Rockingham County area.

The debate over slavery began in earnest in the state with the 1831-1832 session of the General Assembly. As author Philip Bruce has stated in his work *Virginia: Rebirth of the Old Dominion*, "The sentiment in Virginia in favor of general emancipation reached its high water-mark at this session of the General Assembly."<sup>7</sup> Bruce also states that a desire to do away with slavery "by one means or another" was felt by "most of the members" of the General Assembly.<sup>8</sup> Only the difficulty of funding a feasible and inexpensive plan to abolish slavery prevented the passage of a law concerning emancipation in this session of the General Assembly.<sup>9</sup>

The failure of the General Assembly in 1831-32 to find a solution to the slavery question led many in the state to conclude the problem was beyond the power of Virginia to solve.<sup>10</sup> Many decided to endure slavery's existence until something occurred to uproot the institution.<sup>11</sup> At this period Northern abolitionists, most notably Massachusetts's William Lloyd Garrison, began what author Bruce termed "unreasoning intolerant" attacks upon slavery

and slaveholders, without consideration for the feelings and interests of the southern people as a whole.<sup>12</sup> These attacks created anger and outrage among Virginians, regardless of whether they favored slavery or not.<sup>13</sup> Although most Virginians were determined to reject emancipation and the aggressions of the Northern abolitionists, they still hoped that the worst aspects and evils of slavery could be abolished by a program of gradual colonization of the free Negroes.<sup>14</sup> Although the colonization movement made it clear that general emancipation was not its goal, there existed a vague hope that somehow the shipment of free Negroes to Africa would bring about the eventual death of the slave system.<sup>15</sup> Many felt that if enough slaves could be freed and colonized in Africa, the final result would be the eventual return of all slaves to Africa, either voluntarily or by forced deportation.<sup>16</sup>

Virginia was the earliest and strongest supporter of the colonization movement among the states.<sup>17</sup> As early as 1777, Thomas Jefferson had been an advocate of colonization.<sup>18</sup> Twenty-three years later, the General Assembly instructed Governor Monroe to propose to the President of the United States that land be purchased where all free Negroes or those to be freed could be settled.<sup>19</sup> In 1816 after being prompted by Virginia, Congress authorized the formation of the American Colonization Society.<sup>20</sup> The national organization to accomplish the goals of the colonization movement was founded by Robert Finley of New Jersey at the encouragement of James Madison, James Monroe, Henry Clay and others.<sup>21</sup> The society purchased a tract of land on the western coast of Africa and, by 1830, had transported 1420 free Negroes there.<sup>22</sup> In 1848, this area became the Republic of Liberia.<sup>23</sup>

Virginians played an important role in the leadership of the American Colonization Society. U.S. Supreme Court Justice Bushrod Washington served as the first president of the society.<sup>24</sup> Governor John Pleasants was the first vice-president of this national body.<sup>25</sup> Chief Justice John Marshall became the first president of the society's Richmond branch.<sup>26</sup> Other Virginians who played a prominent role in the affairs of the American Colonization Society were John Randolph, James Madison, James Monroe, and later Episcopal Bishop William Meade.<sup>27</sup> According to William Hemphell, Marven Schlegel, and Sadie Engelberg in Cavalier Commonwealth, "Nearly every prominent Virginian took part" in and contributed to the society.<sup>28</sup> Thirty-one auxiliary societies were organized in the cities and counties of Virginia.<sup>29</sup> The memberships of these societies were composed of the most respected and distinguished citizens of the state at large. The General Assembly responded to this support for the colonization movement by appropriating \$20,000 to the Society in 1826, a depression year when the state government was borrowing money.<sup>31</sup> The Assembly reaffirmed its support in 1833 by appropriating \$90,000 for a period of five years to help cover the cost of transporting "free persons of color" to Liberia.<sup>32</sup> In addition, each immigrant was given a \$30 subsidy from this fund.<sup>33</sup>

The plight of the free Negroes, including the 47,000 in Virginia in 1830

that the American Colonization Society was trying to relocate, was bad indeed.<sup>34</sup> The majority of the "free colored" people of Virginia in this period suffered under conditions little better than the life of the slave.<sup>35</sup> The freed Negroes had not been trained or conditioned to live as free men and women.<sup>36</sup> The problems were increased by the lack of demand for free Negro workers in a slave-oriented society where employers usually demanded either slaves or white laborers.<sup>37</sup> Because they found it difficult to earn a livelihood, the free blacks often could not pay taxes or support their families.<sup>38</sup> Because of this poverty, the children of free Negroes were often bound out to whites as indentured servants and the free blacks were often hired out by the courts to earn money to pay their taxes, fines, and jail fees.<sup>39</sup>

The free blacks suffered also under the law.<sup>40</sup> The kinds of work they could perform were restricted.<sup>41</sup> All blacks, in reaction to the Nat Turner Insurrection, were denied the right to assemble, even to attend divine services.<sup>42</sup> Free blacks could not move freely within their state or country.<sup>43</sup> They were required to carry passes when traveling, and, even then, free blacks found some distance from home were often accused of being escaped slaves.<sup>44</sup> Since the courts did not accept the testimony of blacks in trials concerning whites, any black accused of being a runaway was usually sent by the courts back into slavery.<sup>45</sup>

The shift of general public support in Virginia from general emancipation to colonization is mirrored on a local level by two petitions to the General Assembly from the Augusta-Rockingham County area. The first petition was presented to the Assembly in December, 1831, by Augusta delegate John M. McCue.<sup>46</sup> When McCue presented the petition, he made a "vigorous speech in opposition to slavery."<sup>47</sup> The petition itself was a plea by 215 Augusta-Rockingham County area ladies for a general emancipation of the slaves in Virginia.<sup>48</sup> As previously stated, although strong support did exist for such a measure at this time, the General Assembly ultimately rejected emancipation in the 1831-32 session, because no workable and inexpensive plan could be found.<sup>49</sup>

Another petition from the same area was presented to the Legislature in February, 1837. This petition pointed out "the present miserable and unhappy conditions" of "the free colored people of our state" and asked for "an act of incorporation" for "Our State Colonization Society."<sup>50</sup> The petitioners further requested the Assembly to "remove the restrictions" under which the Act of 1833's "efficacy has been in a great measure retarded."<sup>51</sup> The document comments also that "Your memorialists look with displeasure upon the movements of fanatical persons in the non slave-holding states" who were "meddling with our interests," referring to the Northern abolitionists.<sup>52</sup>

The petition was signed by 166 "citizens of Rockingham and Augusta."<sup>53</sup> The 159 recognizable petitioners include many important citizens of the two counties. John M. McCue, the Augusta delegate who had fought for the 1831 emancipation petition signed as a "memorialist" on the document.<sup>54</sup> Several

area Presbyterian ministers signed the document. The Rev. John A. Steele of the Staunton First Presbyterian Church and the Rev. William Willson, former minister at Augusta Stone Church appeared as petitioners.<sup>55</sup> Joining Steele and Wilson was the Rev. John A. Vanlear, the Stated Clerk of Lexington Presbytery and minister of Mossy Creek Presbyterian Church.<sup>56</sup>

Apparently Mossy Creek members formed the nucleus of the petition's signers with almost a third of the signatures on the document belonging to members of that congregation.<sup>57</sup> Seven of the churches nine-member Board of Trustees, Jonathon Shipman, Abraham Smith, Bethuel Herring, David Griffeth, Jacob Harnsbarger, James Davies, and Addison Coyner signed the petition.<sup>58</sup> Four members of the Mossy Creek Session were present on the document: John Bell, John Black, Robert Black, and John M. Estell.<sup>59</sup> In addition, Matthew Blair, Addison Coyner, James Davies, David Griffeth, Jacob Harnsbarger, Bethuel Herring, Jonathon Shipman, and Abraham Smith of the Board of Deacons signed as memorialists.<sup>60</sup>

Others signing the 1837 petition included the Reverends William Jackson and Frederick Goodwin of Trinity Episcopal Church in Staunton.<sup>61</sup> John B. Christian, an Elder at Bethel Presbyterian Church and H. H. Henry, an Elder at Tinkling Spring Presbyterian Church both appear on the document.<sup>62</sup> At least one slave owner, James Bell of Long Glade, who owned nine slaves in 1837, signed the petition.<sup>63</sup>

Although opinions on slavery in the 1830's were numerous and diverse, a significant number of Virginians moved from support of general emancipation in the early 1830's to support of the colonization movement for free blacks in the later part of the decade. This shift is reflected on the local level by two petitions from the Augusta-Rockingham County area. This first petition of 1831 reflects the prevalent view of that time by supporting emancipation. The second petition of 1837 expresses support for the State Colonization Society and attacks the Northern abolitionists. This reflects the shift in Virginia's mood, after the General Assembly failed in its efforts to find a slavery solution and as attacks from the North on slavery began, away from support of emancipation to support for colonization. The petitioners wrote:

#### **To the Legislature of Virginia.**

**We undersigned citizens of Rockingham and Augusta counties beg leave most respectfully to address your Honorable Body on a subject which they regard of the utmost concernment to themselves and embracing the present and general interests of our state.**

**Feeling deeply for the present miserable and unhappy conditions of that large portion of our population viz. "The free colored people" of Our State, your memorialists would most respectfully invite your attention to some act of legislation on the subject. Your memorialists look with pleasure upon the renewed energy of our State Colonization Society, in whose disinterested benev-**

**olences and philanthropic motives we have unbounded confidence, and believing that it is worthy of the patronize of any State Government do removal beyond the limits of our stage, of the free colored population among us, and being under the firm impression that Liberia is the only place to which they ought to remove, do most respectfully ask an appropriation out of our portion of the Surplus Revenue to that effect.**

**Your memorialists look with displeasure upon the movements of fanatical persons in the non slave holding states, and under the firm persuasion that the views held forth by Our Colonization Society and decidedly sustained by the People of the South must finally put a stop in a great measure to their movements and stop their mouths in intermeddling with our interests.**

**Your memorialists would moreover most respectfully ask of you to continue in force the Act of 1833 making the appropriation of \$18,000 per annum, and to remove the restrictions under which its efficacy has been in a great measure retarded. See 7th Annual Report of Va. C. Society. Your memorialists, therefore, most earnestly pray your Honorable Body for a favorable consideration of the views herein imperfectly presented; and, as in duty bound, your Memorialists will ever pray**

Thomas M. Hill  
Daniel Dinkle  
John Stept  
William A. Sprinkel  
James Dinkle  
J. G. Brown, Jr.  
John Bell  
(---- Vance)  
(Jacob -----)  
Bethuel Herring  
James Davies  
W. Burgess  
David Griffeth  
William Hazeln?  
Frances Ervin  
Geo. Kirkoff  
John Black  
John M. Estell  
Jn. Shipman  
Robert Curry  
(-----)  
John Black?  
Sarah G. Black  
Mary Black  
William Ervin  
Capt. David Bell  
Archibald A. Coyner  
David H. Coyner  
Martin Coyner, Sr.  
Charlotte Smith  
Martha Smith  
Elizabeth S. Rader  
Margaret Samuels

Anne Black  
Matilda Black  
Susanah Black  
Mary Wooddle  
Catherine Kirracoff  
Mary Harnsbarger  
Margaret Kirracoff  
Margaret C. McCue  
Sophia Bell  
Sarah B. Bell  
Mary Jane Coyner  
Elizabeth Coyner  
Elizabeth Webb  
Eliza S. Ervin  
T. Flinn  
Erasmus A. Cease  
Henry Black  
John A. Vanlear  
R. A. Curry  
Abram Hanna  
Robert Black  
Jacob Harnsbarger  
David Ralston  
William Showalter  
James A. McCue  
Thos. W. MGene  
Jacob Michael  
Samuel Landes  
Cyrus Todd  
Addison H. Coyner  
Caleb Griffeth  
Joseph Rader  
(-----)

Elizabeth Blakemore  
 Martha M. Blakemore  
 Hetty Blakemore  
 Elizabeth Coyner  
 Eliza A. Galewood  
 Margaret A. Miller  
 Elizabeth A. Miller  
 Margaret M. McDowell  
 Margaret Miller  
 Elizabeth McDowell  
 Nancy F. McDowell  
 Annas C. Davies  
 Catherine Dinkle  
 Catherine McCreay  
 Sam Curry  
 (Eugenia ———)  
 Martin Coyner  
 Abraham Smith  
 Joseph Smith  
 David S. Bell  
 William Chambers  
 B. H. Frye  
 J. Posey?  
 D. Painter  
 D. Sterrett  
 Geo. W. Kemper, Jr.  
 (—— Eagon)  
 Mat. Blair  
 Charles Cameron  
 B. F. Kemper  
 John A. Steele  
 Frederick Goodwin  
 Wm. Poage  
 S. M. Bodward?  
 Wm. Eidson  
 M. Quinland  
 J. C. Maupin  
 C. R. Harris  
 J. B. Brockinnopes?  
 Benj. Crauforg  
 John Layton  
 Wm. Ruff  
 Judson McCoy  
 J. A. Poke?  
 Alexander S. Hall  
 Andrew Thompson

(George ———)  
 John Shepherd  
 John M. McCue  
 Saml. C. Deal  
 George F. Everding  
 A. R. Cananger?  
 J. D. Lamb  
 Wm. Tracy?  
 Selas Vance  
 Wellington Vance  
 James Wm. Miller  
 H. W. McDowell  
 Sam. M. McDowell  
 Samuel Dinkle  
 Jonathen Lamb  
 Michael Wise  
 Wm. McDowell  
 Martin L. Coyner  
 Mary Coyner  
 James Bell  
 B. A. Ervin  
 Daniel H. Brown  
 Andrew Crist  
 Wm. Jackson  
 W. B. Marry  
 (—— Christian)  
 A. B. Cowan  
 Jeff— Kinny)  
 John J. Craig  
 M. H. McCue  
 James Alexander  
 James Bell  
 W. D. Cook  
 R. H. Henry  
 Jacob S. Brown  
 William Scott  
 Jas. H. Patterson  
 William Clarke  
 P. C. Hogg  
 W. M. Frazier  
 Franklin McCue  
 John H. Peyton  
 (John — Moore)  
 William B. Kayser  
 L. Waddl  
 W. Willson  
 Wm. W. Donaghe  
 Chesley Kinney  
 John B. Christian  
 Matthew Pibron<sup>64</sup>

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Listed below are names of the Ladies of Augusta County who presented a petition, or Memorial, to the General Assembly of Virginia, January 19, 1832, asking for abolishment of slavery in the Commonwealth.

There were 3 petitions circulated in Augusta County for signatures of ladies who were opposed to slavery, asking that slavery be abolished in the Commonwealth of Virginia. They clearly state that this action is unexampled—that females should interfere in its political concerns. The petition states that they are impelled to exercise their right to express themselves because of the recent tragical deeds. These events are referred to in the article by Tom Blair which precedes this listing.

The ladies who signed the memorial in 1832 lived in all parts of Augusta County.

Isabella McDowel	Catharine Stickley	Janetta A. Calhoon
Maria Coalter	Elizabeth Fauber	Elizabeth Calhoon
Ann A. Turner	Sarah Feller, Sr.	Margaret L. Calhoon
Elizabeth McClung	Margret Fellers	Rebecca Trimble
Sarah B. Williamson	Sarah Feller Jnr	
Mary Warden	Catharine Fellers	Susana Faber
Elizabeth Gilkeson	Mary Gangwer	Elizabeth Faber
Janetta W. McClung	Jane Gangwer	Izabela Oflichter
Martha A. Turner	Martha Newcome	Nancy Palmer
Agnes R. McClung	Presilla Milsted	Elizabeth Garhart
Mary L. Sowers	Catherine Kerington(?)	Mary M. Cress
Catharine Colhoun	Rosannah Mooney	Barbara Fauber
Eleanor C Harper	Margaret Kyger	Anna Harbarger
Eliza L. Points	Barbara Kyger	Magdalena Whitsel
Mary Shott	Matilda Kyger	Lydia Peters
Sally Sheetz	Mary Kyger	
Barbara Lutz	Sarah Fellers	Elizabeth Stuart
Susan Clitz	Katharin Slagle	Mary Hanger
Nancy Patterson	Frances Slagle	Eth Wilson
Kizzy Patterson	Catherine Koynerd	Hannah W. Wilson
Matilda Patterson	Elizabeth Koynerd	Elisa Link
Elizabeth Paterson	Anney Koynerd	Catharine Hanger
Rebecca Sheetz	Jane Koynerd	Lidia Woodward
Susan Shott	Annahelena Atwater	Mary C. Woodward
	Eliza Hamilton	Ellener Gregory
	Jane Crawford Sr	Rebecca Woodward
	Jane Crawford Jr	Elizabeth Allen
	Elizabeth Crawford	Elizabeth Painter
	Mary Dedrick	Sarah Patterson
	Mary Bigger	Jane C. Patterson
	Elizabeth Bigger	Elizabeth Davis
	Jane Bigger	Rebecah King
	Mary Forbish	Margaret Brau (Brown?)
	Susan Helms	Isabella Brown
	Sarah Painter	Betsy Brown
	Mary Jane Apple	Jane Brown
	Lucy M. Clarke	Sarah Hamilton

Eliza Montgomery  
 Harriet Crawford  
 Mary L. Crawford  
 Ann Poage  
 Julia H. Bell  
 Mary T. Hyde  
 Margaret E. Hyde  
 Rebecca B. Gamble  
 Mary B Kenney  
 Margret Beard  
 Margaret Patterson  
 Sarah Kerr  
 Mary Curry  
 Sarah Crawford  
 Sophia Yount  
 Mary O. Poage  
 Elizabeth Gamble  
 Eliza J. Gamble  
 Jane Kerr  
 Ann Gamble  
 Mary Clinedinst  
 Margaret Van lear  
 Carol Young  
 Margaret E. Young  
 Margaret Young  
 Eliza Shown  
 May Stover  
 Eliza Stover  
 Mary Ann Stover  
 Elizabeth Stover  
 Margaret B. Stover  
 Susan Glenn  
 Julia Curry  
 Mary Malcomb  
 Evelina Baylor

Nancy White  
 Dorothy Thompson  
 Mary Burket  
 Elizabeth Burket  
 Mary White  
 Emily White  
 Nancy Anderson  
 Catharine Hurst  
 Luseandy Hurst  
 Peggy Bell  
 Elizabeth Lessly  
 Cynthia Ann Crawford  
 Sally Stuard  
 Nancy Boyers  
 Nancy Markwood  
 Polly Graham  
 Eliza Graham  
 Isbela Graham  
 Margaret Graham  
 Sarah Conner  
 Rachel Conner  
 Sarah Conner  
 Jane Conner  
 Lydia Reed  
 Elizabeth Reed  
 Maryan Switzer  
 Ann G. Harnsbager  
 Letitia K. Robertson  
 Isabela Clark  
 Nancy Clark  
 Eleanor Wilson  
 Elizabeth Wilson  
 Mary Rady  
 Lydia Baber  
 Susan Baber  
 Mary B. Donaghe

Jane E. Golladay  
 Mary J. Rusk  
 Marthy Gorden  
 Sarah Deary  
 Diana Cook  
 Mary P. Deary  
 Margaret Deary  
 Elizabeth B. Luze  
 Caroline Fackler  
 Catharine S. Deary  
 Rachel Ann Deary  
 Elizabeth Johnson  
 Susan Trout  
 Patsy Buckner  
 Magdalene Thurman  
 Mary Parent  
 Sally Lessley  
 Peggy Lessley  
 Betsy Lessley  
 Nancy Lessley  
 Sally Woodward  
 Sarah C. McClung  
 Martha J. Hyde  
 Polly Loyd  
 Ann Loyd  
 Peggy Loyd  
 Polly Loyd Jnr  
 Martha Hanger  
 Elizabeth Gibson  
 Jane Woodward  
 Catharine Morris  
 Sally Woodward  
 Eveline White  
 Mary Jane Woodward  
 Margaret Allen

## PUBLIC EDUCATION IN AUGUSTA COUNTY, 1870-1940 PART II

By  
 Ann McCleary

A new image of the public school evolved at the turn of the century in Virginia. Progressive era reformers noted in the late 19th century that country life, particularly in the South, was not keeping pace with the improvements found in American cities. In the first decade of the 20th century, President Roosevelt appointed the Country Life Commission to explore the underlying "problem" of country life. As country people flocked to the cities for better work and educational opportunities, Roosevelt feared the decay of the rural lifestyle that had formed the basis of American culture. The Commission determined that the poor quality of the one-room and two-room schools contributed significantly to this decline in country life and hence advocated federal assistance to improve rural schools. Educational reformers and sociologists joined in this drive, arguing that schools should play a major role in developing the qualities of leadership and cooperation so essential to modern rural life. Country schools should be "modernized," to adapt to a new vision of country life. This new philosophy led in the early 20th century to more control over local schools by the State Board of Education, diminishing the power and authority of local trustees and patrons.

Reformers ideally pictured the new rural school as a community center, training both children and adults and hence serving as a catalyst for social change. According to the Cooperative Educational Association:

*Every public school in Virginia is a community center where the citizens may unite for the improvement of their educational, social, moral, physical, civic, and economic interests.<sup>1</sup>*

State Superintendent J. D. Eggleston envisioned the "modern" school as a "more dignified and beautiful structure," with large playgrounds, a school garden, and an agricultural plot, along with facilities for manual training, domestic science, and a more diversified curriculum. By serving as a center for the formation of children's clubs, cooperative industries for women and men, and citizens' leagues, the new country school would "socialize the isolated districts" and "maximize the community life against the individual."<sup>2</sup>

Beginning in 1906, the state legislature passed several financial incentives to encourage the construction of modern school buildings. The Williams Building Act of 1906, the Strode Act of 1908, and a 1916 act all appropriated loan funds for new construction or enlargement and repair of old schools. Permitting schools to borrow money from the Literary Fund, these acts created a boom in school construction. Between 1910 and 1923 alone, the

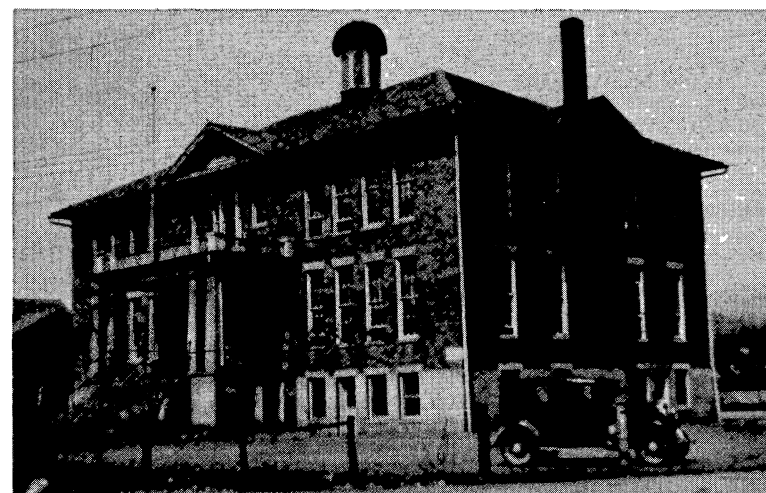
value of Virginia's school property increased from 8½ to 39 million. Augusta County clearly benefited from these funds. Out of 57 dated schools included in a 1932 Fire Insurance Survey, 45 were constructed after 1906. Thirty-five were built after 1916, with the majority constructed in the 1920s. Six of these new schools were subsequently enlarged between 1916 and 1932. Community and patrons leagues raised much of the money to match these state funds, proving "instrumental" in erecting "new and modern school buildings."<sup>3</sup>

By attaching directives for school construction to these new loan funds, the State began to more closely supervise school construction. The Williams Act required that any building plans be approved by the state and local superintendents and further required the State Board of Education to select school furniture. The Strode Act included specifications on ventilation, lighting, design, and toilet facilities. The 1916 act further refined these specifications.<sup>4</sup>

In Augusta County, the first in this series of larger schools came four-room schools following a more domestic design and scale, providing a clear transition from the more traditional forms of the earlier schools to the clearly new educational designs of the later consolidated schools. Built between 1900 and 1915, these school buildings assumed the familiar I-house form—a two-story, single-pile, central-passage design with two rooms on each floor. (Figure 1). The balanced facade, usually seven bays with a central entrance; the front cross gable; the simple one-story, wooden porches found on these schools proved remarkably similar to the vernacular houses of the period. These schools illustrate the local dependence on familiar domestic forms in the first attempts to create larger school buildings. Most of these schools were of frame construction, and have all been demolished. The only surviving example, the Mt. Sidney School, is also the only documented brick school of this type.



By the 1910s, another larger consolidated school design became more popular in Augusta County. This design, found first at the Greenville School of 1910, is a two-story, rectangular central-passage plan. (Figure 2). Its double-pile arrangement allows for a total of eight rooms — four on each floor—in comparison to the earlier four-room schools. Most of the documented and surviving examples are of brick, with the only frame example at Parnassus. These new plans may have been influenced by the State Department of Public Instruction, which in 1911 was furnishing without cost plans and specifications for sixteen schoolhouse designs, including two-, three-, four-, six-, and eight-room schools.



In 1920, the State moved this plan service to a new division, entitled the School Building Service, and strengthened its role in the planning of Virginia's public schools. The service was designed to provide plans to the counties at a minimal charge, saving money from architectural fees, and in the process to require compliance to the new school construction specifications. This division also wrote specifications for buildings, advised on sites, and supervised their construction. Counties were now required to obtain plans for additions and new school construction from the state. Historian J. L. Blaire Buck has argued that this service "led to the establishment of high standards of construction and of design throughout the state."<sup>5</sup> By 1923, the state had also appointed a State Supervisor whose sole responsibility was for school buildings.

The new, more diversified curriculum mandated by the state also encouraged the integration of other more specialized rooms and spaces into the modern school complex. The most notable additions were large rooms used as auditoriums, gymnasiums, community centers, or all three. After physical education was added to the curriculum in 1920, intermural sports programs were introduced, usually basketball or baseball. The new gymna-



sium provided more consistent practice space in all types of weather for this increasingly popular program. (Figure 3). The School Building Service encouraged the inclusion of an auditorium, preferably with a stage as schools developed literary and music clubs which staged programs for the community. (Figure 4). Community rooms, occasionally with kitchens, provided space for the community programs advocated by rural sociologists to improve the quality of country life.<sup>6</sup>



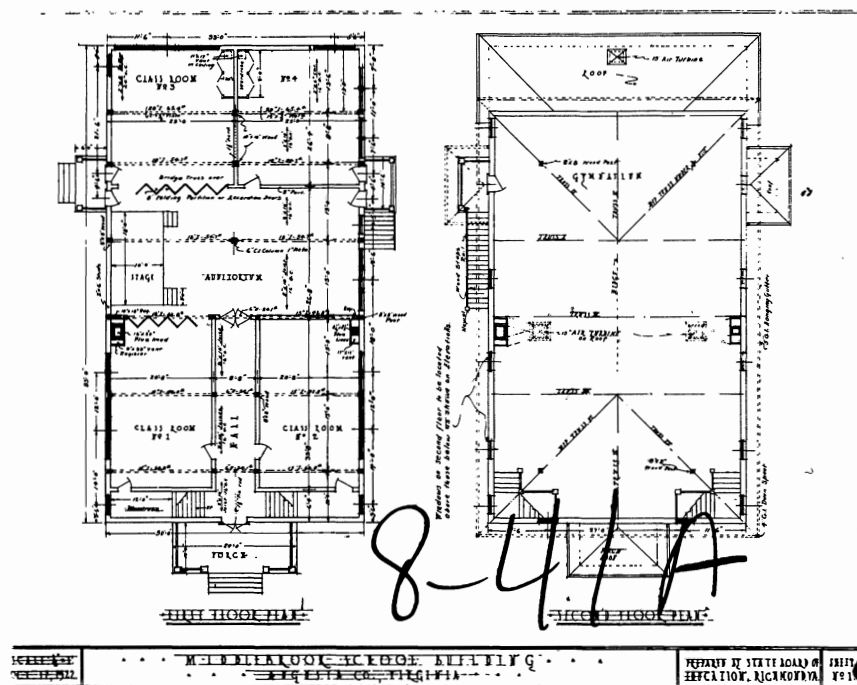
State plans included a variety of other more specialized spaces, including libraries, chemical laboratories, and lunchrooms. The state established a matching fund to encourage the establishment of school libraries in 1908, and community leagues and women's clubs often helped raise the needed

match. In the mid-1920s, the state appropriations were increased and a State Superintendent of Libraries was appointed. Augusta County had only three libraries in 1911, but the number had risen to 66 by 1920-1. Chemical laboratories were one of the first specialized classrooms to be introduced, and were commonly found in makeshift space in the 1910s and in specialized rooms in the 1920s in the larger county schools. With the growing emphasis on children's nutrition in the 1920s, women's clubs began to provide hot and nutritious lunches in some schools. Although state plans only rarely included lunchrooms in Augusta County in the 1920s and 1930s, makeshift space was often found until the school cafeteria program became more popular in the 1940s and cafeteria additions were built.<sup>7</sup>

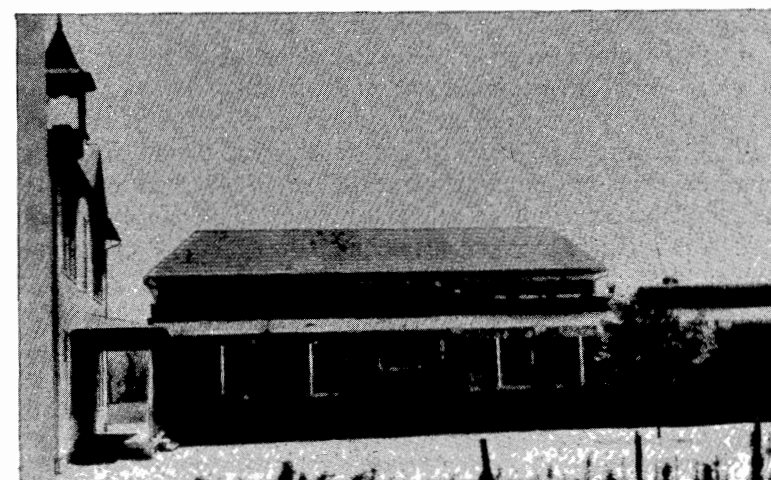
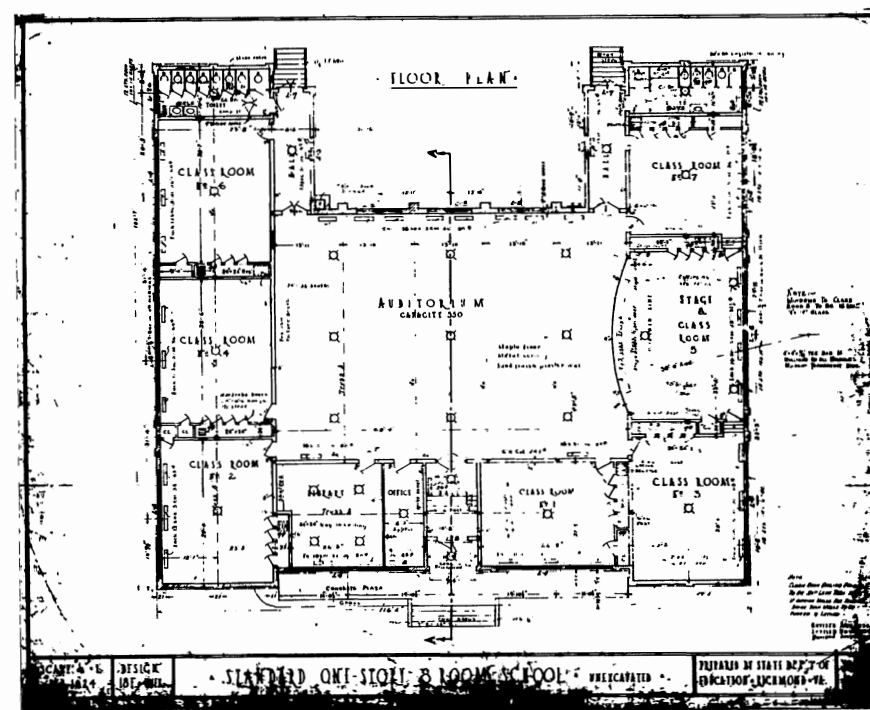
Augusta County's consolidated school plans changed dramatically with this new School Building Service. The first decade of this service witnessed great variation in school plans, since many of these early schools were custom-designed for the particular community. Besides the addition of more specialized spaces, one of the most obvious changes was from a two-to one-story elevation. Only two, two-story schools were built in Augusta County after 1920, whereas all of the previous consolidated schools had been two stories. Four of this group of eight assorted 1920s plans in Augusta County had full, raised basements, providing additional space lost with the second story. In three of these four schools, the basement contained a large auditorium/ community center. Two other examples from this period boasted both community centers and an auditorium/gymnasium. The Middlebrook High School, built in 1922 largely with community money, most clearly reflects the new spirit of the consolidated school as a community center; it contains a large gymnasium, separate auditorium, and basement kitchen and dining hall/ community center. (Figures 5, 6).



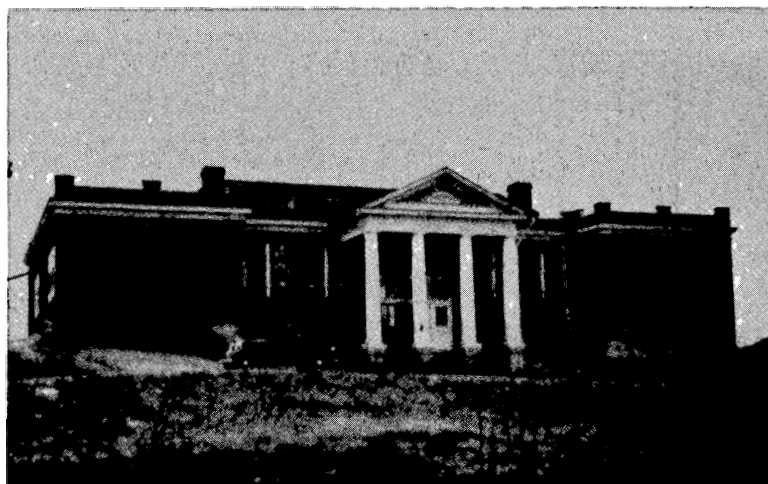




Beginning in the mid-1920s, Augusta County began to rely increasingly on a new “standard” plan produced by the School Building Service, and this design became the most common plan built through the 1930s. (Figures 7, 8, 9). Between 1923 and 1925, Augusta County built four examples of this new one-story plan with a central auditorium/gymnasium, encircled by classrooms on three sides. The central entrance leads directly into a small entrance foyer with a classroom to each side, and then proceeds into the gymnasium. Classroom wings extend along each side of the gymnasium. In all examples, the classrooms open up to the large central space. Within this basic plan, the number of classrooms varied from four at New Hope to ten at Fishersville. All four schools had separate library and office space, and some had stages serving the auditorium. In all cases, the partially finished basement later became the lunchroom and sometimes had classrooms as well. The styles of these buildings vary. Three hint at the Colonial Revival style with large central wooden porticos, while the New Hope School reflects the contemporary Art Deco style. The County School Board contracted with the Eutsler Brothers of Grottoes, one of the best-known local contracting firms in the early twentieth century, for the construction of all four of these examples.



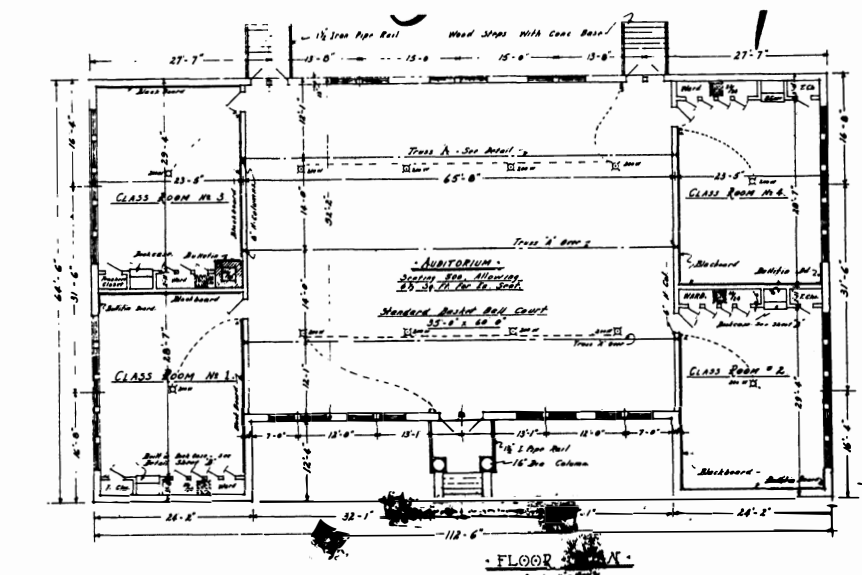
Even after the establishment of the plan service, the county school boards still assumed responsibility for school construction. The State plans provided only the basic outline, but the construction details were left up to the builder. Between 1920 and 1927, the School Board hired individuals or construction firms for each building. Although responsible for determining the details and supervising the construction, these builders were often



assisted by local citizens, who donated much of the labor. By 1927 the Augusta County School Board had established a Maintenance Department, headed by G. G. Shaver. Shaver supervised the construction of all buildings after 1927, hiring his own building crew for both new schools and additions. With the new Maintenance Department, the plans for Augusta County's schools became even more standardized.

Augusta County built seven examples of the standard plan with a central auditorium between 1927 and 1937. The major difference in these plans and the four earlier examples was the removal of the front classrooms; the main entrance now led directly into the gymnasium/auditorium and not a front hall. This plan proved so popular that it was the only consolidated plan used by Augusta County between 1929 and 1940. (Figures 10, 11, 12). All seven of these examples were built by the Maintenance Department, who took this standard plan and adapted it to the needs of each community, varying the number of classrooms from four to seven. Additional classrooms could and were easily added later at the end of the side files of rooms. The exterior style of these schools also became more consistent, with most displaying evidence of the Colonial Revival. The first five examples were of brick construction, while the last two, dating to 1937 and 1938, were frame.

The boom in building construction during the early 20th century resulted in a decrease in the number of schoolhouses and an increase in the number of rooms. Consolidation—"the grouping of small schools into a central school"—became one of the major goals in rural education. Reformers argued that consolidated schools could best meet the challenge of the modern country school. Statewide, the number of schoolhouses, which peaked in 1901, dropped considerably by 1915 due to consolidation. In Augusta County, the number of schoolhouses dropped from 189 in 1900-1 to 143 by 1915-6 and 102 by 1925-6. In 1925 the County employed 54 trucks to



SCALE AS NOTED PLAN NO. 417 SCHOOL for CLAYTONVILLE VA. Augusta Co.



FRONT ELEVATION



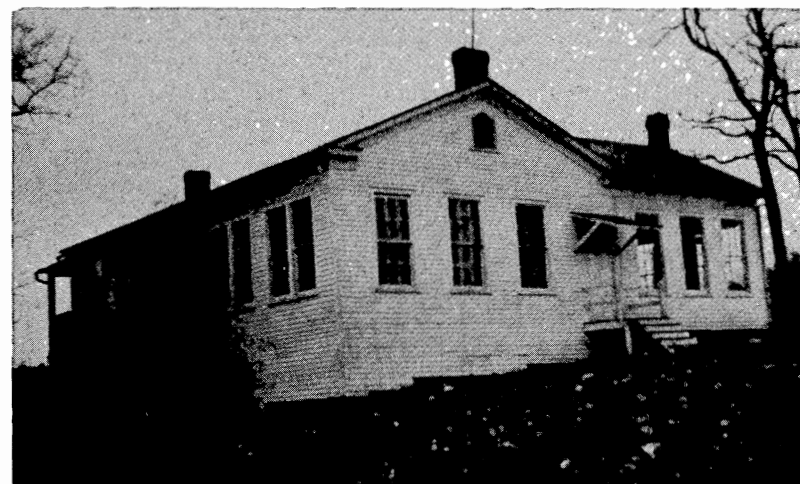
transport an average of 25 students. (Figure 13). The 1931-2 Annual Report observed that 64 schools had been closed since consolidation began in the County. Since most of the new schools were larger than four rooms, the number of rooms still increased steadily in this period from 244 in 1901 to 329 by 1931.<sup>8</sup>

In Augusta County, the process of consolidation continued the movement from one-room to two- and three-room graded schools. By 1911-12, out of 141 total schools, Augusta County had 35 two-room schools and 20 schools with three or more rooms. By 1931-2, there were only 20 one-room schools, 19 two-room schools, 2 three-room schools, and the remainder were



larger, consolidated schools over four rooms. Schools with over four rooms were increasingly built in larger towns and villages such as Greenville, Churchville, Middlebrook, Craigsville, or New Hope. However, between 1900 and 1920, the County built numerous three-room schools in smaller communities such as Mint Springs, Verona, and Mt. Pisgah. (Figure 14). Many of these three-room schools contained one room which could serve as an auditorium/community center, still responding to the new image of the country school.<sup>9</sup>

Along with consolidation came the high school movement. With modern facilities, a diversified curriculum, and a higher level of instruction, the new high schools epitomized the idea of the modern country school. In 1906, Virginia passed the Mann High School Act to "establish and maintain a system of public high schools."<sup>10</sup> Although the State had authorized secondary education as far back as 1875, the Mann Act proved to be the first serious attempt to fund, develop, and regulate high schools. Statewide statistics reveal the phenomenal growth of high schools in the ensuing decade, from 74 in 1905 to 118 in 1906, 448 in 1912, and 575 in 1917. With the mushrooming



interest in establishing high schools across the state, Virginia increased the available loan funds over this decade, further stimulating this growth.<sup>11</sup>

By 1911, ten of Augusta County's larger consolidated schools offered some high school instruction. Augusta County boasted 14 accredited high schools by 1922-3, by far the largest number in any Virginia county. However, it was not until 1923 that the County built its first high school building. The early high schools were often built on lots adjoining the elementary school, as at Middlebrook, Greenville, Churchville, New Hope, or Stuarts Draft. (See Figure 8). In the 1920s, in some of the smaller communities like Spottswood or Weyers Cave, the newly constructed consolidated school housed all grades, from the primary level through high school. By 1925-6, Augusta County boasted 11 accredited four-year high schools, all with modern plants.<sup>12</sup>

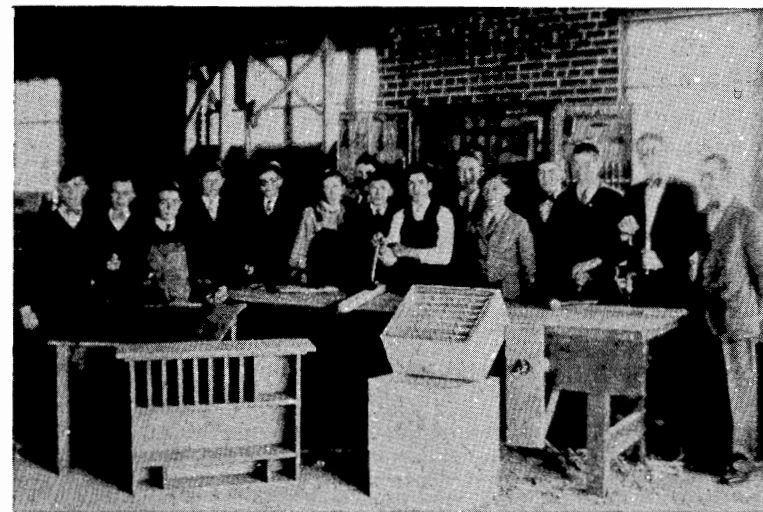
With these new consolidated schools came the realization of several other progressive-era reforms, such as the extension of the school term, more efficient teacher supervision and improved curriculum. Beginning in the 1910s, new subjects were added, ranging from music, drawing, agriculture and industrial arts in the elementary schools to bookkeeping, shorthand, typing, agriculture, homemaking, industrial arts and laboratory science in the high school. The State particularly stressed the need to introduce vocational programs in agriculture and home economics to make "country schools fit country life" and in 1908, allocated funds to establish departments of agriculture and domestic economy in ten agricultural high schools in the state. In 1916, federal grants-in-aid under the Smith-Hughes Act were made available in Virginia and, along with the 1929 George Reed Act, stimulated the further development of vocational education in the state. Part of these grants was appropriated for new building and for purchasing equipment.<sup>13</sup>

Augusta County proved to be progressive in its introduction of vocational programs. In 1923, the County established two Smith-Hughes agricultural high schools, and the programs brought immediate popularity. The following year, four schools boasted agricultural departments. By 1931-2, county high schools had six four-year agricultural programs and three two-year programs. One of the County's major contributions was in the establishment of the Future Farmers of America. This large, nationwide network of agricultural clubs began at Weyers Cave High School in 1927. Originally called Future Farmers of Virginia, the clubs became popular so quickly that by 1928 a national club organization had been established. (Figure 15,16). Home economics first entered into the local curriculum in the late 1910s, often taught by students from the Harrisonburg State Teachers College. In the 1920s, many of the high schools established more permanent departments with a home economics teacher included in the faculty. (Figure 17). Several schools provided vocational training for adults in the community through night courses and vocational schools, further enhancing the image of the school as a community center.<sup>14</sup>

With the improvement of southern white schools in the early 20th century, black schools began to lag further behind in educational training. Several philanthropists observing this development established funds for the improvement of black schools in the South. In 1908 the Jeanes Fund was established to provide money for teacher supervision and training and for industrial education, considered at that time to be the most appropriate

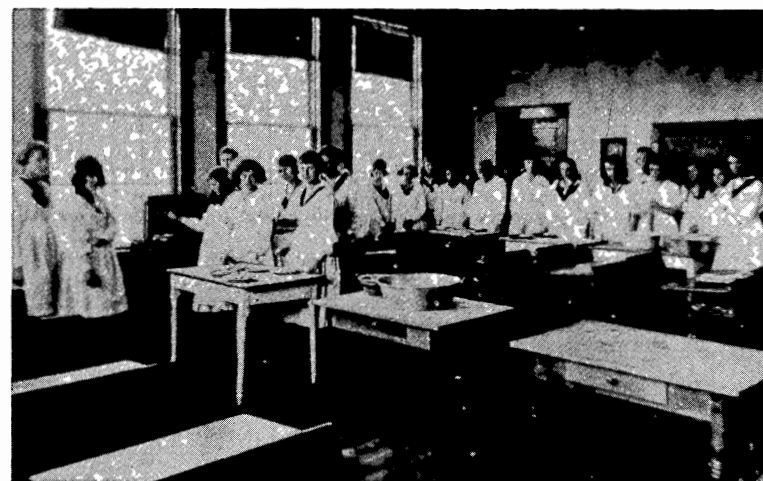


The Weyers Cave Chapter of the Future Farmers of Virginia



training for blacks. The John F. Slater fund, begun in 1882 to aid teacher training, gave substantial financial assistance to the development of high schools between 1911 and 1952. Julius Rosenwald began his subsidies for the construction of improved black schools in 1916.<sup>15</sup> With the Rosenwald fund, "well-planned and well-built schoolhouses sprang up all over the state of Virginia."<sup>16</sup> These new schools conformed to the planning requirements previously developed by the state for white schools.

Yet, despite these advances, Augusta County's black schools progressed rather slowly. As late as 1931-1932, none of the black schools were over two rooms. Half of the county's 20 one-room schools and eight of the 11 two-room schools served black students, and only four of these met the require-

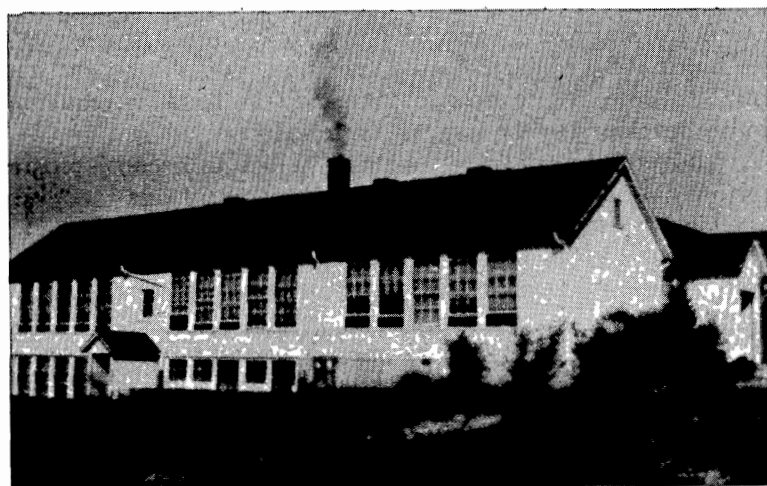




ments for "standard" elementary schools. The 1932 "Fire Insurance Survey" on Augusta County schools reveals that five of the 11 black schools surveyed were built before 1882, one was built in 1917, and the remaining five, four of which were two rooms, were built between 1926 through 1930.<sup>17</sup>

Augusta County had no public high schools for blacks before the Augusta County Training School in 1938. Previous to this time, the county sent students to the black high school in Staunton. The concept of the "training school" emerged in the early 20th century to strengthen graded schools, to provide better teacher training facilities, and to promote industrial and vocational education.<sup>18</sup> Augusta County's training school, built over 20 years after the first such school in the state, had lost some of the idealism inherent in the original goals. The school assumed more of the character of a consolidated school without the special vocational emphasis of the first Virginia training schools, and remained the only black high school in the County for many years. (Figure 18).

By 1940, Augusta County had passed through its first major phase of consolidation. More modern consolidated schools had been built in each part of the county, closing the majority of the one- and two-room schools. Soon after this date, in 1946, the Division of School Buildings discontinued



the production of working plans, and the county school boards were required to hire an architect and put the building out to contract. After this date, the Augusta County School Boards's Maintenance Department was no longer involved with either new construction or additions, and the styles and designs of new schools changed. The next few decades brought more changes—the integration of schools in the 1950s and the further consolidation of schools within each district in the 1960s—bringing the county schools up to the present day.

*Special thanks for photographs go to: Eugene Smith, Augusta County School Board, who furnished the 1932 and 1949 photographs from fire insurance surveys of the county schools; Mrs. George Schreckhise from Weyers Cave for the photographs from the Weyers Cave Optimum; Mrs. Lucille McClung for photographs from the New Hope High School Hope Chest; Mrs. W. C. Rosen for photographs from Middlebrook High School Hilltop Breezes; William Brubeck for plans for Middlebrook High School; and Dick Hamrick for photographs from the Augusta Historical Society archives.*

#### Footnotes

1. J. L. Blaire Buck, *The Development of Public Schools in Virginia, 1607-1952* (Richmond, 1952), p. 257.
2. J. D. Eggleston, "Consolidation and Transportation in Virginia," *University of Virginia Alumni Bulletin* III, No. 3 (July 1910), p. 254-5.
3. Clay Catlett, *Economic and Social Survey of Augusta County*, University of Virginia Record Extension Series, Vol. XII, No. 7, January 1928 (Charlottesville), pp. 102-3; Harold K. Robison, "Fire Insurance Survey of Augusta County Public Schools," (Insurance Company of North America, Philadelphia, Penn., May 1932).
4. Buck, p. 144; Link, p. 277.
5. Buck, pp. 211, 347; *Virginia School Reports*, 1911-12.
6. Buck, pp. 176-81, 240; *Annual Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction*, 1920-1.
7. Buck, p. 156; *Virginia School Reports*, 1911-12.
8. Eggleston, p. 252; Catlett, pp. 106-7; *Virginia School Reports*, 1900-1, 1915-16; *Annual Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction*, 1925-6, 1931-2.
9. *Virginia School Reports*, 1911-12; *Annual Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction*, 1931-2.
10. Buck, p. 142-4.
11. *Ibid.* p. 168.
12. *Virginia School Reports*, 1911-12; *Annual Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction*, 1925-6, 1922-3 p. 121.
13. Link, p. 311; Buck, pp. 140, 267.
14. Catlett, p. 102; Buck, p. 249; *Annual Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction*, 1931-2.
15. Buck, pp. 158-9, 161, 205.
16. Buck, p. 205.
17. Robison, "Fire Insurance Survey"; *Annual Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction*, 1931-2.
18. Buck, p. 205; Link, pp. 354-6.

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# AUGUSTA COUNTY OBITUARIES 1861

Copied By

Anne Covington Kidd

[Continued from Volume 20, Number 2]

In this county, on the 12th of January last, Mr. Phillip ALMARODE, upwards of 30 years of age. [12 February 1861]. . .about 35 years. [SV 25 January 1861]

At Wm. S. Hanger's on Christian's Creek, on the 7th of December ... G. H. B. ALTAFAER, aged 6 years, 8 months and 7 days. [1 January 1861]

.... Lieut. Richard ASHBY .... died on Thursday last. [9 July 1861]

On the 25th of August, at the residence of her Father, near this place, Miss Harriet P. [AST], daughter of Capt. John H. Ast ... aged 20 years, 10 months and 28 days. [17 September 1861]

On Sunday, the 15th inst., at Hightown, Highland county, Va., David H. BAER, son of Rev. Jacob Baer, dec'd., (residing near Churchville) in the 22nd year of his age .... member of the Churchville Cavalry .... widowed mother .... member of the United Brethren Church. [24 September 1861]

Report of Deaths in the General Hospital at Staunton from its Establishment to September, 17th, 1861 .... D BALLOW, Anderson's Brig. Sept. 8. [24 September 1861]

Tribute of Respect .... at meeting of Harper Guard, held at their Camp, on Alleghany Mountain, on the 8th day of November ... George Bailey .... private. [19 November 1861]

At the Virginia Female Institute, on Friday the 29th ult., Virginia Scott BALL, youngest child of Eliza Jane and the late George C. Ball, of Montgomery, Alabama, in the 15th year of her age .... sister .... Her remains ... were placed in the Thornrose Cemetery, on Saturday the 30th ult. [9 April 1861]

October 18th, near Waynesboro' ... John L. BASKIN, son of Mrs. Rachael BASKIN, in the 18th year of his age .... member of the Fishersville Rifles .... His brother — James W. BASKIN — was killed at his side in the great battle of Manassas .... widowed mother. [12 November 1861]

At Manassas Junction, on ... the 21st of July, Mr. James W. BASKINS, son of Mrs. Rachall Baskins, of Augusta county ... in the 20th year of his age .... a member of Capt. Antrim's company and was mortally wounded on the battle-field at Bull Run .... left a ...mother. [27 August 1861]

At Fishersville October 29th, Mrs. Hannah [BAZDELL], wife of John Bazdell, aged about 60 years .... member of the Presbyterian Church. [12 November 1861]

Tribute of Respect ... Staunton Artillery held at "Camp Hill," Prince William county, Va., September 22nd ... prepared by Lieut. Geo. W. Imboden and L. Waddell, jr. ... Jacob BEAR .... private. J. D. Imboden, Capt. [1 October 1861]

... on the 9th inst., Henry E. [BELL], son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Bell, in the 7th year of his age. Long Glade, March 11th, 1861. [26 March 1861]

In Baltimore, on the 4th of June last ... Mr. John H. BELL, in the 65th year of his age .... was born on the Big Calf Pasture, in this county, 30th October 1796, and resided the greater part of his life at Mt. Solon and its vicinity, as a Merchant. For nearly ten years past he conducted the same business at Earleysville, in Albemarle, and within a year past removed to ... Baltimore, with his wife and daughter, to reside with his only son, Nelson H. Bell .... remains ... in ... Green Mount Cemetery. [27 August 1861]

On the Long Glade, on the 15th inst., Miss Margaret R. [BELL], daughter of Mr. Alex. R. Bell. Though the subject of this notice did not go to the grave in mature age, she did go as "a shock of corn fully ripe." ... [member of] Mossy Creek Church. [1 January 1861] ... on the 15th ult. [SV 4 January 1861]

At her residence, on Long Glade, Augusta county, Dec. 21st, Mrs. Mary BELL, in the 82nd year of her age. [31 December 1861]

On the 22d of November, Mrs. Sarah J. BELL, wife of Wayt Bell, Esq., in the 31st year of her age ... a daughter of the late Col. Crawford .... connected herself with the Presbyterian Church of this place, Oct. 29th, 1849 .... (leaves) husband ... children. [5 November 1861]

On Monday, the 3rd inst. ... James Luther [BOSSERMAN], son of William and Elizabeth Bosserman, aged 4 years, 7 months and 18 days. [11 June 1861]

On the 12th ult., Henry Frederick [BOSSERMAN], aged 2 years, 8 months and 24 days. On the 13th ult., George Levi [BOSSERMAN], aged 9 years, 3 months and 23 days. On the 19th ult., John Franklin [BOSSERMAN], aged 10 years, 6 months and 23 days — all children of William and Elizabeth Bosserman, near Middlebrook, Augusta county. [9 July 1861]

On the 21st of November, in this place, Mrs. Grace BOWLES, in the 63d year of her age. [24 December 1861]

On the 24th ult. ... Mr. George L. BOWMAN, at his residence near Arbor Hill, Augusta county. [22 October 1861]

... in the General Hospital at Staunton ... U T BRANNER, 13th Ga., Sept. 16. [24 September 1861]

In the neighborhood of Greenville ... on the 2d day of September ... Miss Ann E. BRAWFORD, daughter of Mr. Baxter and Mrs. Rebecca Brawford, in the 16th year of her age. [8 October 1861]

On the 27th ult., at Columbia, S.C., while attending the Theological Seminary, Wm. H. BROOKS, of Augusta county .... was born in 1828, in Augusta, where he lived until the time he left home for Washington College .... studied law at the University of Virginia. [26 March 1861] .... His remains were brought home last week. [SV 8 March 1861]

In Charlottesville, on the 15th of August, Mr. Benjamin BROWN, son of James Brown, sen., of Augusta county ... in the 26th year of his age .... a member of Capt. Antrim's company ... wounded in the battle at Bull Run ... lodged in the Hospital at Charlottesville. [27 August 1861]

In Staunton ... August 22d ... Capt. Samuel W. BROWN, of the Greenbrier Rifles, in the 25th year of his age .... His remains were carried back to his native valley. [24 September 1861]

Samuel BROWNLEE, Esq., a well known citizen of Augusta, and for a long time of the firm of Robertson & Brownlee, live stock dealers, Richmond, dropped dead ... on Sunday, the 30th ult., while on his way to Bethel Church .... He was aged about 37 years, and unmarried. [8 January 1861]

On the 31st ult., Mrs. Annie BUTTERLY, wife of Mr. John Butterly, aged 25 years, 7 months and 3 days. [8 January 1861]

Near Midway, on the 17th, Mr. Tarleton CAMPBELL, aged about 60 years. [24 December 1861]

At St. Josephs, Tensas Parish, La., on the 7th of February, Rev. Thos. T. CASTLEMAN, for many years rector of Trinity Church in this place. [26 February 1861] .... widow and orphan children .... for fourteen years the Rector of Trinity Church .... removed from this place to Illinois ... for two years. At the ... request of Bishop Polk, of Louisiana, he removed to that diocese .... The Virginia Female Institute and ... Trinity Church ... are monuments of his ... influence over others. [5 March 1861]

On the 18th ult., in this place, Mrs. Elizabeth CEASE, wife of Mr. Henry Cease, in the 71st year of her age. [8 January 1861] On the 17th ult. [SV 4 January 1861]

In this place, on the 3rd inst., Mrs. Frances V. CEASE, wife of Henry P. Cease, in the 27th year of her age. [17 September 1861]

On the 22nd of February, at Augusta, Georgia, Mrs. Ann Amelia [CLARKE], wife of Samuel E. Clarke, (and daughter of Wm. Ruff, Esq.) formerly of this place. Also about the same time, an infant child of Mrs. Clarke .... member of the Presbyterian Church. [5 & 26 March 1861]

In this place, at the residence of her step father, Mr. G. W. Booth, Willie Cornelia [CLARKE], youngest daughter of Dr. Wm. Clarke, deceased, aged 8 years and 20 days. [14 May 1861]

... Deaths in the General Hospital at Staunton .... R P COOK, 1st Ga., Sept. 5. [24 September 1861]

Tribute of Respect ... Company D, of the 5th Regiment of Virginia Volunteers .... private Alex. S. CRAIG .... husband, father. H. J. Williams, Capt. Com. D, Chairman. Jas. E. Beard, Sec'y. [15 October 1861] Near Manassas Junction ... the 26th of September ... Alexander S. CRAIG, aged about 34 years .... belonged to the Southern Guards from this county .... Quartermaster .... member of the Ev. Lutheran Church at Newport, and ... one of its Elders. [22 October 1861]

Tribute of Respect ... Isaac CRAVER ... wife ... children .... Committee, Harvey Bear, N. H. Hotchkiss, Joseph Wilson. [12 March 1861]

In Camp Alleghany ... Eugenie Granville CURRY, aged 22 years and 1 day .... Sergeant. [26 November 1861]

On Sunday, the 25th of August ... Gen. Wise's Cavalry under command of Col. Jenkins, (Ex-Congressman) ... on scouting expedition towards the Hawk's Nest (Fayette Co.) .... only one killed ... a young man of this county, Mr. Frank DILLARD, who was acting as a substitute for Mr. Harry Lofland .... 17 years of age. [10 September 1861]

... in the General Hospital at Staunton ... J W DONOHOE, And's Brig., September 12. [24 September 1861]

Near Middlebrook, Augusta County ... on the 13th ult., Mrs. Sarah DULL, aged 57 years .... member of the Lutheran Church. [14 May 1861]

At the residence of her father, near Waynesboro' ... on the 5th inst. ... Hatta ELLIS, daughter of John and Emelie Ellis, aged 4 years, 2 months and 12 days. [17 September 1861]

... Lieut. John B. ESKRIDGE ... died on Thursday last. [20 August 1861] At a Special Meeting of Staunton Lodge, No. 45, I.O.O.F., held at the Odd Fellow's Hall, ... the 16th day of August .... the Committee appointed .... to express the feeling of the members ... upon the lamented death of ... John B[rown] ESKRIDGE .... who died for our liberty and our homes at Manassas ... brought home to be buried .... (leaves) mother ... sisters and brothers. Com: Wm. A. Burnett, Henry H. Peck, Wm. A. Burke. [27 August 1861] Camp Clarke, (Staunton) August 16th, 1861. At a parade of the Augusta Fencibles, James H. Skinner, Captain ... tribute paid to ... Lieutenant ... John B. ESKRIDGE. John D. Beard, O.S., A.F. [27 August 1861]

... in the General Hospital at Staunton ... Abel G. EZELL, 1st Tenn., Aug. 22. [24 September 1861]

... the 2d inst., six miles from Martinsburg: Killed— ... John FARRISH. [16 July 1861]

Near South River, Augusta county, on the 10th of Nov. ... Mrs. Margaret Ann [FELLOWS], wife of Gideon Fellows, and daughter of Bluford and Jennetta Sampson, aged 20 years, 8 months and 26 days. [26 November 1861]

On the 30th inst., Miss FIELD, of Dinwiddie county, one of the pupils of the Virginia Female Institute. [SV 5 April 1861]

Near Churchville, on the 14th instant, at the residence of her son, John M. Huff, Mrs. Mary M. FISHER, aged 85 years ... member of the M. E. Church. [27 August 1861]

... October 8th, near Camp Bartow, on Greenbrier River ... in the 9th year of his age, Mr. James A. FRAZIER, of Jennings's Gap, a member of the Churchville Cavalry .... (member) Presbyterian Church .... His aged mother survives her youngest child. [15 October 1861]

At his residence, near Greenville, in Augusta county, on the 14th of November ... Mr. John FRENGER, aged 52 years, 5 months and 19 days. [3 December 1861]

... in the General Hospital at Staunton ... S FULKS, 20th Va., July 27. [24 September 1861]

At Fairfax C. H., September 17th ... Mr. Joseph C. FULLER, son of Mrs. Elizabeth Fuller, of Augusta co., ... aged 24 years, 11 months and 5 days ... member of the Monticello Guards, Company A, 19th Virginia Regiment .... His remains ... deposited in our burying-ground at Bethlehem Church. His burial took place at 11 o'clock in the night of the 19th, and his funeral was preached on the 20th by the Rev. Mr. Richardson ... brothers and sisters. [8 October 1861]

On Friday, the 4th inst., at her mother's residence, near Spring Hill, Miss Emily E. [GAMBLE], daughter of Philander Gamble, dec'd., in the 24th year of her age. [8 January 1861]

... in the General Hospital at Staunton ... S P GILLASPIE, Arkansas, July 22. [24 September 1861]

On the 17th ult., at the residence of Mr. E. U. Horsley, county of Nelson, Miss Hannah GOODWIN, a native of Ireland. She resided in Virginia about seven years .... Though less than a year a resident of this county, occupying the position of Governess. [1 October 1861]

Suddenly, at Manassas, on the 28th of July, Magnus S. GRAVES, in the 18th year of his age .... member of the Methodist Church. [20 August 1861] At a meeting of the Staunton Artillery, held at their camp near Manassas (Tribute of Respect) adopted .... youngest member Magnus S. GRAVES .... private. [20 August 1861]

... in the General Hospital at Staunton ... W J GREGORY, 1st Ga., August 29. [24 September 1861]

... Jacob E. GROVE, at Harper's Ferry, one of Capt. Imboden's company. [SV 26 April 1861]

On Sunday, Oct. 13th, Maggie George [GROVE], daughter of John C. Grove, aged 3 years, 5 months and 23 days. [29 October 1861]

In the Hospital at Charlottesville, Oct. 16th, James H. GUTHRIE, in the 24th year of his age. A native of this county and a member of Capt. Antrim's Company Augusta Rifles .... widowed mother ... five sisters. [29 October 1861]

On the 10th inst., near Rockland Mills, Augusta co. ... Mr. Gottlieb GUTSHALL, aged 68 years and 12 days .... member of the Lutheran Church. [25 June 1861]

October 4th, on Christian's Creek, near Greenville ... Miss Kate HALL, aged 31, and Miss Sarah E. McCaden, aged 19 — half-sisters .... members of the Methodist Church .... Kate Hall was ... a business lady. [5 November 1861]

At Hermitage, on the 21st ult., Loulie Allen [HANGER], only child of John and J. F. Hanger, aged 4 months. [30 April 1861]

... in the General Hospital at Staunton .... N W HARDY, 20th Va., Sept. 11. [24 September 1861]

At the residence of his father, in this county, on the 18th September, Thomas B. HARLAN, aged 20 years, 10 months and 7 days. [1 October 1861]

At his residence, in Staunton ... Sept. 13th inst., Lieut. Thomas L.

HARMAN, in the 31st year of his age .... Imboden's Battery. [17 September 1861] Tribute of Respect .... Staunton Lodge No. 13 ... Com. Wm. B. Young, D. C. McGuffin, R. J. Hope. James F. Patterson, Sec'y. Tribute of Respect ... Staunton Artillery held at "Camp Hill," Prince William county, Va. ... prepared by Lieut. Geo. W. Imboden and L. Waddell, jr. ... officer of this Company, our First Lieutenant, Thomas L. HARMAN. J. D. Imboden, Capt. [1 October 1861]

On the 4th of September, Mrs. Eleanor C. HARPER, wife of Col. Kenton Harper, in about the 59th year of her age .... leaves ... a husband ... and children. [1 October 1861]

On the 8th day of August ... at the residence of her mother, Mrs. Eliza Rozanbarger ... Mrs. Eliza J. HARRIS, wife of Dr. James Harris, of Augusta county, aged 24 years, 2 months and 4 days ... member of the Lutheran Church. [3 September 1861]

On the 27th September, at the residence of his father, near Greenville, John B. HAWPE, Sergeant of the "Augusta Lee Rifles" .... seized with Typhoid Fever whilst in camp at Greenbrier River, and was brought home by his brother .... parents. [12 November 1861]

Old Uncle Frederick HILL, for a number of years a servant at the Hospital at this place, died one day last week. [SV 1 February 1861]

At West View, Augusta co., on the 14th December, Henry [HOBBS], son of Mrs. Elizabeth and the late James O. Hobbs, aged 3 years, 6 months and 9 days. [8 January 1861]

On the 6th of November ... Samuel Evers [HOWE], only son of Rev. J. W. and Julia Howe, aged 1 year, 2 months and 13 days. [26 November 1861]

... in the General Hospital at Staunton ... B F HOWELL, Gilham's Reg., Aug. 4. [24 September 1861]

... in the General Hospital at Staunton ... W B HUTCHINSON, 3d Ark, Sept. 5. [24 September 1861]

At the residence of Mr. Thomas Calbreath, on the 11th inst., Miss Martha B. HUTCHISON, about 75 years of age .... member of the Presbyterian Church. [22 January 1861] ... about 15 years. [SV 25 January 1861]

At Mt. Sidney, Augusta county ... 30th April ... Miss Martha Jane JOHNSON, daughter of William and Mary F. Johnson, deceased, aged 22 years and 22 days .... member of the M. E. Church .... sister. [4 June 1861]

In Fredericksburg, at the house of his father, on the 25th of October last, in the 7th year of his age, John Breckenridge [JOHNSON], youngest son of William B. and Margaret S. Johnson. Little Breck is the fifth child that early death has snatched away from ... those fond parents .... He was laid in the Cemetery, at Staunton, by the side of his ... brothers. [17 December 1861]

Silas KARACOFÉ ... about 25 years of age ... recently married, was caught in a threshing machine, near Sangersville, in this county ... the 23rd of August ... died on Monday following. [3 September 1861]



On the 22d inst. ... Willie B. [KAYSER], son of Wm. B. and E. S. Kayser, aged 7 years, 10 months and 26 days. [31 December 1861]

Near Tinkling Spring, Augusta county ... on the 19th inst., Mrs. Mary KOINER, consort of Col. David W. Koiner .... left ... husband, two small children. [5 March 1861]

On the 22nd ult., at the residence of S. K. Taylors Esq., near Staunton, James Lewis KYLE, son of Wm. Kyle, Esq., aged about 21 years. [8 January 1861] On the 20th ult., at the residence of Samuel K. Taylor. [SV 25 January 1861]

... in the General Hospital at Staunton ... John C. LAMB, 5th Va., Aug. 31. [24 September 1861]

... Capt. Samuel A. LAMBERT, of Augusta ... recently died. [5 November 1861]

On the 12th inst. ... near Mt. Sidney, William Martin [LANDES], son of John W. Landes, aged 3 years, 9 months and 18 days. [28 May 1861]

Near West View, on the 7th inst., Clarence D. [LIGHTNER], son of A. B. and S. E. Lightner, aged 8 mos. and 9 days. [23 April 1861]

From ... Lexington, Missouri ... Mr. Jas. S. LIGHTNER, who was a native of this county .... had been shot .... (leaves) wife. [3 September 1861]

On the 5th inst. ... Charles Henry [LONG], son of Emmanuel and Amanda Long, in the 7th year of his age. [11 June 1861]

... on the 26th day of December, near Lebanon, W. S. Springs, Augusta county ... W. H. [LOUDERMILK], son of Samuel and Elizabeth Loudermilk, aged 2 years, 5 months and 23 days. [8 January 1861]

... in the General Hospital at Staunton ... Wm E. LURN, Dan. Art., Sept. 12. [24 September 1861]

In this place, on the 17th inst. ... Horace Martin [LUSHBAUGH], aged 6 years, 8 months and 25 days. On the 19th Willie Dorsey [LUSHBAUGH], aged 3 years, 9 months and 5 days, children of Samuel H. and Sarah Lushbaugh. [26 February 1861]

In this place ... May 24th, Mrs. Louisa LUSHBAUGH, wife of Mr. Harman Lushbaugh, aged 37 years. [4 June 1861]

At the Hospital, in this place, on the 10th inst., Jerome MATHEWS, of Rockbridge county, and a member of Capt Curry's company Va Volunteers .... was in the fight at Rich Mountain .... member of the Presbyterian Church, and left a fond mother. [24 December 1861]

Nov. 25th, near Greenville, Mrs. Mary M. McCADDEN, consort of Henry McCadden, aged 53 years. [31 December 1861]

October 4th, on Christian's Creek, near Greenville ... Sarah E. McCADEN, aged 19. [See Kate Hall. 5 November 1861]

On the 15th day of November ... at his farm near Staunton ... Mr. Judson McCOY, in the 59th year of his age. [24 December 1861]

Camp Onward, near Fairfax C. H., August 31st .... meeting of the members of the Augusta Valley Rangers ... tribute of respect offered to ...

W. Crawford McCUE, late a member of the Company. Capt. Wm. Patrick, Chairman. [10 September 1861]

... on Thursday morning last ... Ellen [McNEMARA], aged 6 years, 4 months and 7 days, and ... Catharine Ann [McNEMARA], aged 9 years, 3 months and 4 days, children of Patrick and Ellen McNemara, of this place. [17 December 1861]

Mr. B. F. MICHIE, a son of Thomas J. Michie, Esq., of this place, died in Harrisonburg, on Friday last, and was buried here on Sunday. [12 February 1861] Tribute of Respect. In the County Court of Rockingham ... Benjamin F. MICHIE, Esq. ... members of the Rockingham Bar .... Wm. D. Trout, D. C. R. C. .... His remains were brought to Thornrose Cemetery .... was about in his 26th year .... (leaves) father and brothers and sisters. [SV 15 February 1861]

Robert H. MITCHELL ... soldier ... is now no more. [26 November 1861]

Tribute of Respect. At a meeting of Company D, convened on the 18th of November ... private John MONTGOMERY ... mother, brothers and sisters. H. J. Williams, Ch'm, 5th Reg. Va. Volunteers. Jas. E. Beard, Sec'y. [26 November 1861]

Mr. Armistead M. MOSBY, one of the oldest citizens of this place, died on yesterday. [9 July 1861]

While the Georgia Regiment were encamped at Shaw's Fork, on Sunday night last, 29 miles west of Staunton, en route for the Confederate forces of the Northwest, a sentinel named MYERS was killed by a soldier named Stokes .... remains brought to this place on Monday evening ... and sent to his friends in Georgia. [SV 21 June 1861]

In Staunton, on Sunday evening last ... Mrs. Ella A. MYERS, wife of Mr. Samuel D. Myers, aged 22 years, 9 months and 13 days. [20 August 1861]

... the 25th of August last, Horace George Seely [MYERS], infant son of Samuel D. and Ella A. Myers, aged 4 months, 3 weeks and 4 days .... In the short space of five weeks J. Horace SEELY, who fell in battle .... second, Mrs. Ella A. MYERS, died just four weeks after ... caused, no doubt, by ... death of her brother ... They were the son and daughter of the late Horace Seely, deceased, of Staunton. The third was the Babe, who followed his mother just one week after her death. [10 September 1861]

At his residence in Staunton, on the 28th day of October last, Patrick O'DONNELL, of a wound received in the great battle of Manassas .... member of the West Augusta Guard .... (leaves) widow and ... children. [12 November 1861] Tribute of Respect .... West Augusta Guard, Capt. J. H. Waters presiding .... Com. Lieut. Thos. J. Burke, Private Charles Swope, Sergeant J. J. Bledsoe. [19 November 1861]

On the 28th of July ... Sarah Eleanorah [PARENT], aged 3 months and 14 days. On the 29th of September ... Lucy Clay [PARENT], aged 5 years, 7 months and \_\_\_\_\_ days, children of Samuel and Sarah J. Parent. [8 October 1861]

... in the General Hospital at Staunton ... Peter F PARISH, 44th Va., Sept. 8. [24 September 1861]

... in the General Hospital at Staunton ... J M PATERBE, 22d Ark., August 5. [24 September 1861]

In the vicinity of Fishersville, in Augusta county ... 4th of February, Mrs. Margaret PATTERSON, wife of Mr. Washington Patterson, aged 29 years, 2 months and 24 days ... member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. [5 March 1861]

In Augusta County, near Greenville, on the 19th April, Miss Phebe W. PATTERSON, only surviving daughter of Mrs. Ellen S. Patterson. [30 April 1861]

At his residence in this place, on Saturday last, Mr. David W. PEACO. [15 October 1861]

On the 18th of August, Hallie [POAGE], daughter of Robt. T. and Sallie A. Poage, aged 1 year, 5 months and 1 day. [3 September 1861]

On Thursday, the 17th at the residence of J. B. Evans, in Staunton, J. M. PRICE, formerly of Winchester, Va., in the 17th year of his age. [29 January 1861] ... John B. Evans. [SV 18 January 1861]

... in the General Hospital at Staunton ... W W PRICE, 8th Tenn., August 3. [24 September 1861]

At the house of his brother-in-law, Mr. Jonathan Brown, near Greenville, in this county, on the 3d day of October last, James W. QUARLES, in the 26th year of his age .... son of the late Peter Quarles and Maria E. Quarles, of Caroline County. He joined the Baptist Church of Mount Carmel, in his native county ... and was baptized by Rev. L. Allen. He belonged to Col. Taliaferro's command, Company A, Louisa Rifles, 23d Regiment Va. Volunteers. [12 November 1861]

Mr. E. O. Randolph killed his wife [\_\_\_\_\_ RANDOLPH] at Middlebrook in this county on Saturday night last .... She died on Sunday morning. [20 August 1861]

... in the General Hospital at Staunton ... Jas T REYNOLDS, 1st Ga., Sept. 16. [24 September 1861]

On Tuesday, the 8th inst. .... Mary Susan [RHODES], daughter of Jacob N. and Elizabeth A. Rhodes — aged 10 years. [29 October 1861]

Miss Letitia A. RHYAN, daughter of Mr. Nicholas Rhyan of this county, departed this life Sept. 21 ... the 16th year of her age .... (member of) United Brethren in Christ. [5 November 1861]

On the 21st of September, at the residence of Mr. James Paxton, near Staunton, Mrs. Sarah A. RISK, sister of Rev. Thomas N. Paxton, in the 43d year of her age .... member of Timber Ridge Church .... and thither ... her remains were carried .... Her husband's death, in January last. [15 October 1861]

At a meeting of the Augusta Lee Rifles, Capt. Lilley, held at their Camp, at Greenbrier River, Sept. 5 ... (tribute to) James A. ROSEN, late a

member of this Company. Charles D. McCoy, O.S., Augusta Lee Rifles. [17 September 1861]

Tribute of Respect .... meeting of the Sangersville Division, Sons of Temperance, No. 131, held Nov. 8th ... George W. ROOF, who died in the Hospital on the Alleghany Mountain, and who was ... buried at the Sangersville Church. Com. John Gregory, James A. Houff, James Karicife. [26 November 1861]

Tribute of Respect .... at meeting of Harper Guard, held at their Camp, on Alleghany Mountain, on the 8th day of November ... George W. RUFF ... private. Wm. H. Wooddell, 1st Lieut. [19 November 1861]

.... On Tuesday morning last, a portion of the 5th Virginia Regiment under the command of Col. Harper, with the Artillery Company of Capt. Pendleton of Rockbridge and a company (Continental Morgan Guard) from Winchester ... six miles from Martinsburg in Berkeley county .... field officers, Col. Kenton Harper, Lieut. Col. Wm. H. Harman and Maj. Wm. S. H. Baylor were all in this action .... We lost but three men ... Geo. RUPE, of this county, a member of Capt. Doyle's company, and two—Farrish and Snapp—of the Winchester "Continental Morgan Guard." Among the wounded ... from this town—Jack Doyle, a son of Capt. Doyle, D. A. Kennedy and Philip Maphis .... Jas. Brooke, of this place, made a very narrow escape .... Little Charlie Turner, a boy about 15 years ... father allowed him to go (with Augusta Guards). [9 & 16 July 1861]

On the 29th of October, at Jennings' Gap Hotel, Charles Koogler [RUTHERFORD], youngest son of James W. and Susan Rutherford, aged 1 year, 9 months and 8 days. [26 November 1861]

On Saturday morning, 16th inst. ... Mrs. Lisetta SCHMITT, wife of Matthias Schmitt, in the 53d year of her age. [26 November 1861]

On the 2d instant, near Mt. Sidney, Mrs. Jane SCHRECKHISE, consort of Mr. George Schreckhise, age 52 years, 8 months, 6 days .... member of the Lutheran Church. [SV 10 May 1861]

Departed this life on the 4th inst., in the 80th year of his age, at his own residence in Augusta county, John SEAWRIGHT, one of the oldest ... citizens of the County .... was born in Augusta, but having lost his father when a child, and his mother remarrying again, he was taken by his step-father to ... Georgia. He returned, when about 20 years of age, to his native county, where he married and resided till his death .... For many years he was a Justice of the Peace .... member of Augusta Presb. Church. [9 April 1861]

Joab Horace SEELY ... soldier ... (tribute) written by W. S. H. Baylor, Major of the 5th Virginia Regiment, and James H. Waters, Captain of the West Augusta Guards .... Manassas, July 22d, 1861. [20 August 1861] [See MYERS]

On the 22d of July, at Manassas ... Benjamin Franklin SHUEY, in the 26th year of his age .... member of the West View Infantry .... one of the best young men of whom Augusta county could boast .... member of the Ev. Lutheran Church. [3 September 1861] Tribute of Respect ... Sergeant Benja-

min<sup>2</sup> F. SHUEY .... father and mother .... St. Francis C. Roberts, Capt. Com. F. 5th Infantry. P. E. Wilson, Sec'y. [8 October 1861]

At the residence of his son near New Hope, on the 3rd inst., Mr. John SITES, in the 78th year of his age ... leaves a ... son. [12 February 1861]

On Wednesday night last ... Mr. Jno. B. SNIDER of this place was killed by Henry J. Webster, of Murray county, Tennessee, a soldier belonging to the 1st Tennessee Regiment, Colonel Manning, commandant. Mr. Snider was employed in Mr. Jno. Beck's restaurant .... leaves a young wife and child. [3 December 1861] Tribute of Respect .... Augusta Fire Association .... Col. R. Turk, Lieut. Jno. M. Hardy and P. H. Trout ... committee. [10 December 1861]

... at Fishersville, October 25th, John [SPECK], son of Jacob Speck, in the 14th year of his age. [12 November 1861]

In this place, on the 14th of February, George Nicholson [STAFFORD], son of John and Elizabeth Stafford, aged 6 years, 6 months and 15 days. [5 March 1861]

In this county on the 16th of December last, Garret STANTON, aged about 60 years. [12 February 1861]

On the 11th inst., near Waynesboro, Willard Stanhope [STAUBUS], infant son of Alexander F. and Fannie Staubus, aged 10 months and 23 days. [22 January 1861]

... in the General Hospital at Staunton ... S S SUMMERLIN, 12th Ga., August 1. [24 September 1861]

Tribute of Respect .... meeting of the "Augusta Lee Rifles," Capt. R. D. Lilley, at their camp at Greenbrier River, Oct. 10 ... William Weade SWINK ... private ... (leaves) parents. J. B. Wright, Act'g O. S. Augusta Lee Rifles. [22 October 1861]

In Greenville ... Feb. 9th, Nathaniel TARBET, aged 80 years, 2 months, and 6 days. [5 March 1861]

... in the General Hospital at Staunton ... Austir THOMPSON, 42d Va., Aug. 9 .... J F THURMAN, 8th Tenn., Sept. 2 .... J C TONEY, Col Gilham's Aug. 25. [24 September 1861]

On Friday evening the 11th ult., Florence Bell [VAN LEAR], only child of D. Newton and Nannie Van Lear, aged 8 months and 11 days. [29 October 1861]

... in the General Hospital at Staunton ... A J WALL, 20th Va., July 20. [24 September 1861]

In Butte county, California, on the 8th of Feb., Dr. J. B. WARDEN, formerly of Staunton, leaving a devoted wife and an infant daughter .... Not long since, a mother ... was called from earth. [2 April 1861]

... in the General Hospital at Staunton ... J J WHITLOCK, 44th Va., July 22. [24 September 1861]

... at Fishersville, Augusta county, on the 14th October last, Cornelia G. [WILSON], aged 8 years, and Samuel Bradford [WILSON], aged 6 years—both children of Mrs. Laura M. Wilson. [12 November 1861]

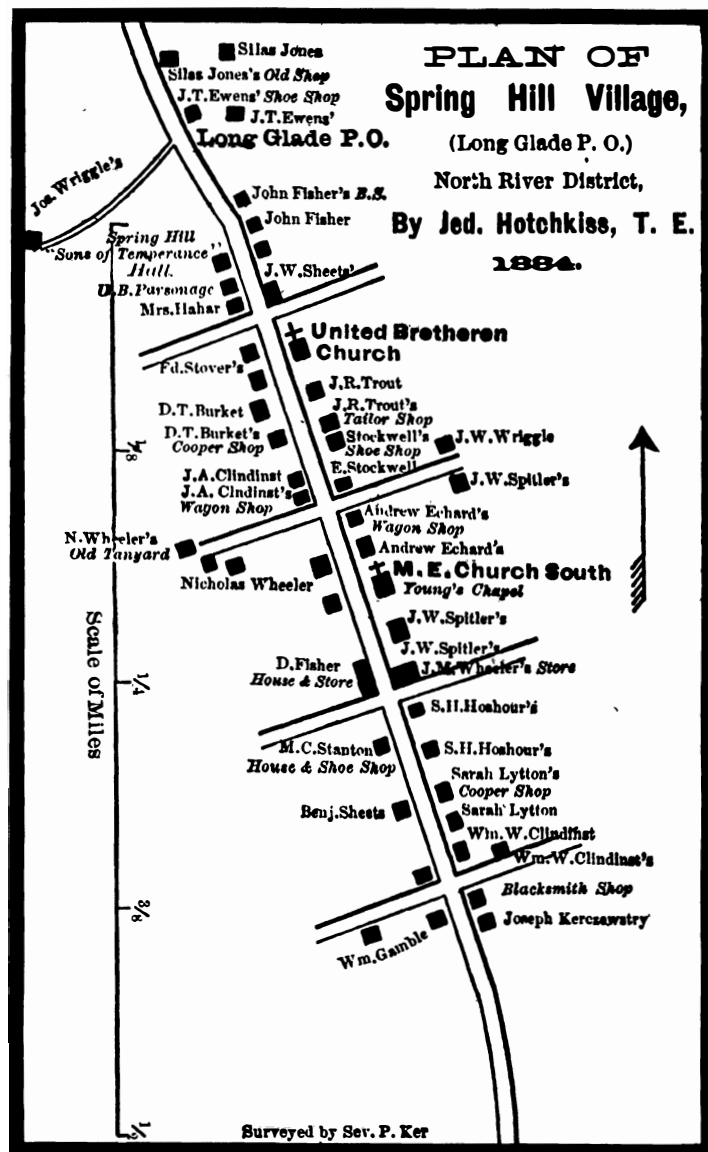
... in the General Hospital at Staunton ... Lewis WITCHGENSTERN, 1st Ga., Aug. 12. [24 September 1861]

... at Sangersville, Augusta co. ... George R. [WITTS], son of Philip and Jemima Witts, aged 6 years, 2 months and 1 day. —His remains were deposited in the graveyard attached to Sangersville Church—funeral sermon by Rev. Geo. Rimel .... brothers and sisters. [1 January 1861]

In the neighborhood of Mt. Meridian, Augusta co., Mrs. Mary WONDERLICK, consort of Mr. Joseph Wonderlick, on the 26th of December, aged 53 years and 1 day .... connected ... with the Evangelical Lutheran Church .... mother of seven children, three of them preceded her in their departure from this world. [15 & 22 January 1861]

... in this place ... the 12th inst., George Asbury [YEAGLE], infant son of George C. and Maggie E. Yeagle, aged 8 months and 26 days. [18 June 1861]

The Staunton Vindicator (Code SV in this article) was one of twenty-three newspapers published before the war in the counties of Clarke, Frederick, Jefferson, Berkeley, Morgan, Hampshire, Shenandoah, Page, Warren, Rockingham, Augusta and Loudoun now entirely discontinued. The Staunton Spectator, from which most of these death notices were copied, continued to publish a two-page edition rather than the usual four pages. [17 December 1861]



Waddell & Hotchkiss  
Historical Atlas of Augusta County, Virginia 1885

## A HISTORY OF SPRING HILL

By

Donna R. Huffer

Approximately eight miles northwest of Staunton lies the small village of Spring Hill. A quiet community today, Spring Hill was once a growing business center with a variety of industries, three churches, and a diverse population. This interesting community was started in 1838 as a planned town, mapped out and sold in lots by two business partners, Jacob Miller Crist and Jacob Crist Spitler.

These two men of great business sense were also first cousins. Jacob Miller Crist was born November 2, 1807, in Augusta County, the son of John Crist and Mary Miller Crist. His grandparents were Andrew and Elizabeth Crist who migrated from Pennsylvania to the Shenandoah Valley with other German families. Jacob Miller Crist's aunt Elizabeth, daughter of Andrew Crist, married Jacob Spitler. They produced a son, Jacob Crist Spitler, who joined fortunes with his cousin Jacob Miller Crist and began buying up land for their future town.

On October 29, 1834, Crist and his wife Mary, and Spitler and his wife Amanda (Redman) bought thirty-five acres from the heirs of James Young for \$703.00. The deed mentions a spring on the land and the, "... right and privilege of conveying the water, in pipes ..." The name Spring Hill, therefore, probably finds its origin in the fact that water was piped from this spring to all parts of the village.

By 1838 the cousins had plotted and sold twenty lots, an average lot containing 1/3 of an acre and water rights to the spring. These lots were originally sold to the following residents:

Lot # 1 Robert Ervin	11 Benjamin Ervin
2 Methodist Episcopal Church	12 Jacob Ross
3 Theophilus Gamble	13 Jacob Ross
4 Davison and Robert Ervin	14 Andrew Crist (brother to Jacob)
5 Davison and Robert Ervin	15 Andrew Crist
6 George and Wright Burgess	16 Charles Tharden
7 Benjamin Ervin	17 Andrew Crist
8 Frederick Teter	18 1/2 Jacob Spitler, 1/2 Andrew Crist
9 Alexander Hall	19 James Dunithan
10 John Nebergall	20 George Wetsell

Heavy traffic on the Long Glade Road (613), the road from Moscow to Staunton, made Spring Hill ideal for businesses. Forseeing the needs of area farmers, the new lot owners set up shops. Benjamin Ervin (Irvin) was a blacksmith. The Nebergall family made barrels, and Jacob Crist's brother Andrew operated a tanyard when he acquired full ownership of lot number

18. Thus, the village of Spring Hill began to grow as a business center as more and more entrepreneurs sought space in the town.

Crist and Spitler continued to sell land adjacent to Spring Hill until the death of Spitler in 1854 of cholera in Jefferson City, Missouri. Spitler's wife and nine children remained in Spring Hill, selling their interests to Jacob Crist. The push westward which had lured Spitler to Missouri also led families out of Spring Hill during the 1850's. Lots changed ownership as new families and businessmen came to settle in Spring Hill.

The Ewing family arrived in 1861 when they purchased two acres adjacent to Spring Hill from Jacob Crist. Shoemakers by trade, the Ewings built a shop on the north end of town. The Long Glade Post Office was located in the Ewing home and was later joined by a telephone exchange.

Just as industrious as the Ewings were the Fishers. The patriarch of the family, John Fisher, was listed in the 1850 census as a cabinetmaker with his wife Mary and four children, James, Jacob, Caroline, and an infant. A John Fisher opened a blacksmith shop near the Ewing property on the north end of town.

Also in the blacksmith business but on the south end of town was the Clinedinst family. They came to Spring Hill in 1862 after purchasing fourteen acres from Crist. Beside operating a blacksmith shop, the Clinedinst family also made wagons, were wheelwrights, and did general carpentry.

Neighboring the Clinedinsts was the Lytton (Litten) family. Samuel Lytton, head of the household, was listed as a cooper in the 1850 census. His family included his wife Sarah and their five children: John, Albert, Osbert, Charity, and Dianna. After Samuel Lytton's death, his widow Sarah continued the cooper business.

When the Civil War came to Spring Hill, the town sent a company of men to battle under Captain Doyle. One of these men, John B. Rankin, Jr., is buried in a small graveyard behind the Ewing house. His death on July 18, 1861 at the age of twenty was due to fever rather than battle. He was survived by his parents, John B. Rankin and Elizabeth Rankin, who ran the Rankin Mill.

It was after the Civil War that Spring Hill reached its business height. It is interesting to note that not one of the original lot buyers of 1838 was present in 1885. In their place were a long list of merchants who prospered on the Long Glade Road. The locations of these shops and businesses were pictured on the 1885 Augusta County Atlas map of Spring Hill. (See Atlas)

Among the businessmen who lived and worked in Spring Hill in 1885 were Silas Jones, a housepainter and general handyman. J.T. Ewing's shoe shop still flourished with John Fisher's blacksmith shop nearby. J.W. "Jimmy" Sheets was Spring Hill's undertaker, skilled in manufacturing coffins. J.R. Trout was a tailor while Joseph Wriggle made carriages. Andrew Eckard made barrels and wagons. Other coopers in the village were David Burket and the Lytton family. Benjamin Sheets was a carpenter. M. C. Stanton competed against Elijah Stockwell as well as the Ewings as a shoemaker.



J.T. Ewing's Shoe Shop

Photo courtesy of Donna Huffer

William W. Clinedinst was a wheelwright. The two general stores in the town were Dan Fisher's store and J. M. Wheeler's store. One man not present in Spring Hill, however, was Jacob Crist. He moved to Nelson County where he died in 1891.

In addition to industry, the year 1885 brought formal education to Spring Hill. When the Sons of Temperance disbanded, Jacob Crist sold the building to the North River School Board. This one-room building became School No. 6.



Undated class picture taken at School No. 6 Spring Hill

Photo courtesy of Harold Berry





Sunday School Class at Spring  
Hill Presbyterian Church

Photo courtesy of Harold Berry

During the 1880's, church life underwent several changes in Spring Hill. The Methodist Episcopal Church suffered from declining attendance and all but closed its doors as a functioning church. The United Brethren still had a congregation, but opinions were split over the arrival of the Odd Fellows society. United Brethren members were forbidden to join the club because of the secrecy of the Odd Fellows' rites. Amid these troubles, a movement began to start a Presbyterian Church in Spring Hill. The first Presbyterian minister to hold service in Spring Hill was the Rev. George



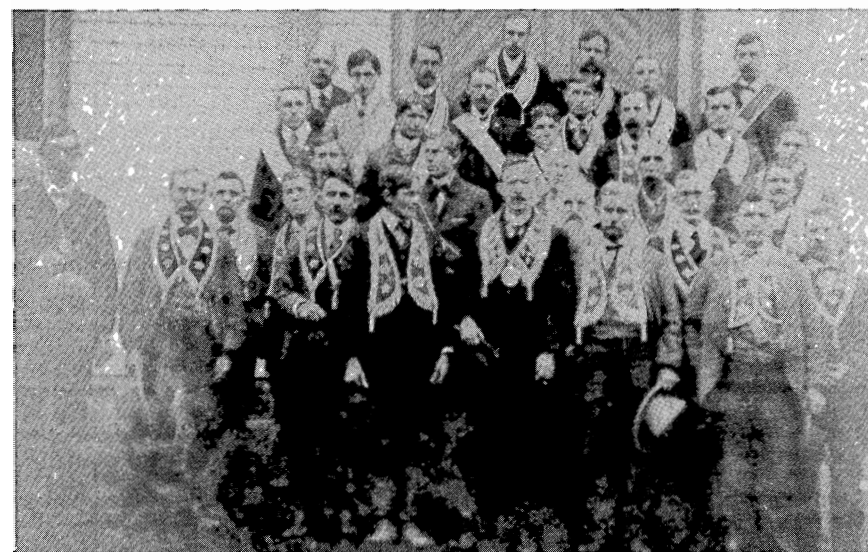
Spring Hill Brethren Church

Photo courtesy of Donna Huffer

Bitzer. At first the Presbyterians rented the United Brethren Church for their services. When the United Brethren Church raised their rent in 1887, the Presbyterians moved their services to the old Methodist Church. In 1894, the Presbyterians acquired a deed from Mr. Tayman and began building their own church. This church flourished while the Methodist Church was torn down and the United Brethren Church was discontinued and eventually converted into a residence.

Spring Hill's importance as a business center was short-lived. By 1910 the Long Glade Road was lined with empty shops. Commerce shifted from the village to Staunton as farming declined in the area and new roads were built. Modern industry forced the disappearance of the cooper, shoe, and tailor businesses. Only four businesses remained open inside Springhill by 1920. These were John Fisher's blacksmith shop, Herman Lambert's blacksmith shop, the General Merchandise Store run by the Berry family, and George Chaplin's car garage. Outside Spring Hill the Morning Star Flour Mill, owned by the Chaplin family, continued to operate. Once a town of businessmen, however, Spring Hill in 1920 had become a residential area where villagers commuted to jobs elsewhere.

New growth in Spring Hill was confined to two areas. First, the Odd Fellows Society which had a large following built a club hall next to Berry and Jones' General Merchandise Store. This club remained strong until a diminished membership forced the group to disband during the 1960's.



Odd Fellows Lodge Spring Hill, Virginia

Jake Kibler, Newton McClune, John A. Jones, John A. Anderson, Wm. B. Anderson, A. Perry Anderson, Ausbert Berry, Jasper Berry, Harley Berry, Frank Berry, Henry Spencer, \_\_\_\_\_ Jordan of the Poogue Place, Jake Ewing, \_\_\_\_\_ Curry, Lake Hamrick, \_\_\_\_\_ Carson, \_\_\_\_\_ Landrum.

Photo courtesy of Mrs. Beverly Suter

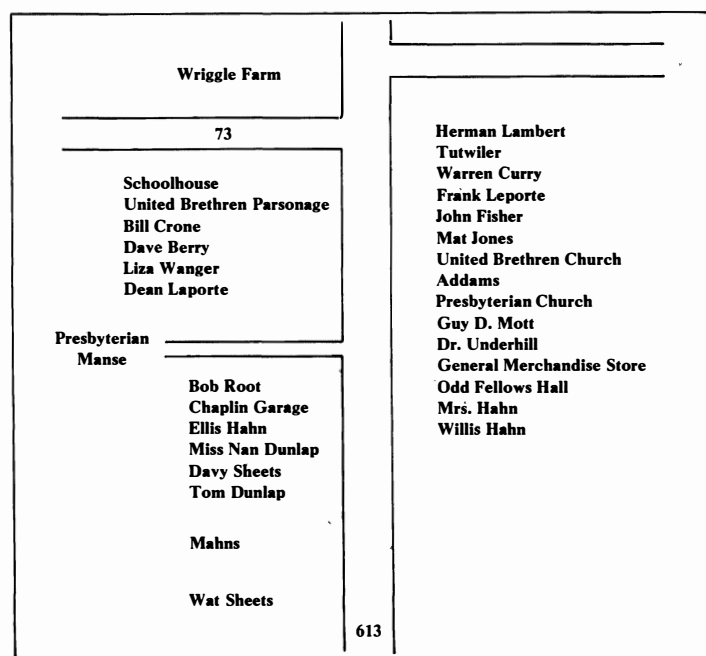
Secondly, pupils had outgrown their one-room school house built in 1885 and an eight-room schoolhouse was built next door. The old schoolhouse was used as an auditorium. Eventually, a high school was built at the spot. All buildings were torn down, however, when the high school was moved to North River.

Today, the original spring mentioned in the 1834 deed still continues to carry water into town. Senior residents believe the spring is located on the R. L. Yates farm where a brick springhouse encases the pipes. These pipes, relaid in 1903, pump water to cisterns in Spring Hill.

Overlooking Middle River, Spring Hill is now a quiet residential town. Boarded up shops and store fronts converted into homes stand testimony to Spring Hill's once industrious past.

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Spring Hill 1920's

## SMALL COLLEGES, MISSIONARIES AND ASIAN STUDIES A CENTURY AGO: THE MARY BALDWIN COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

By

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#### MARY BALDWIN IN ASIA

Very often it is the larger universities which are credited with educating Americans about Asia and training them for careers in all aspects of this field. To an extent this is true, but small liberal arts colleges have also played an important role. For example, today in the state of Virginia there are only six colleges which make any real effort to teach Japanese. As can be expected, the University of Virginia has the best program in terms of quality and depth, but three small colleges, Mary Baldwin, Randolph-Macon Women's College, and Washington and Lee, also have successful programs that offer students study opportunities in Asia as well as a great deal of personal attention. Other colleges like the University of Richmond are just starting Japan programs.

A century ago, however, larger universities gave students little if any training in Asian studies or had any academic or professional connections with Asia. Rather, it was the small and often church related college that produced students who were to have influence in Asia.

The reason for this phenomenon is the fact that many of these colleges produced missionaries who went on to have distinguished careers in Asia. During the late 19th and early twentieth centuries there was an impressive movement by many Protestant as well as Catholic churches to send missionaries to Asia. Colleges related to these churches became obvious centers for the education and recruitment of missionaries. Colleges such as Ohio, Wesleyan, Muskingham, Mary Baldwin and dozens of others scattered throughout the East and Midwest sent out thousands of missionaries to Japan, China, Korea and India. While some missionaries may have had more distinguished careers than others, their overall impact was immense.

Between the 1850s and the late 1940s, they became the major communicators of one civilization back to the other. Because of their direct involvement in the lives of so many Asians, they taught them more about the West than any other group. In their books, articles, lectures and letters they gave tens of thousands of Americans their only view of Asian life. Today few

missionaries are left, but their impact in Asia is still felt in the many schools they built and people they educated<sup>1</sup>.

There was often an important enduring relationship between the home college and the college educated missionary. The missionary received much of his or her education at the home institution, often departed almost immediately for the field and either set up or worked for some pre-existing institution abroad. Although the missionary was formally affiliated with some church and had no formal ties with his or her college, the bond with the college remained very real and important. The missionary often sent letters and reports to the college giving students and alumni a view of life in Asia. The home institution, on the other hand, educated and encouraged new missionaries to go to Asia and often provided a free or inexpensive education to children of missionaries through scholarships and grants. The colleges often also provided moral and financial support for the missionaries and their work as well as strong informal bonds with the institutions created by the missionaries abroad. Missionaries on furlough often visited the college. These personal contacts thus gave the college community a more intimate acquaintance with the mission fields and with Asia. Thus, while the missionaries played the crucial role of communicators of one civilization to another, the college perhaps even more than the church in some instances acted as the focal point of this cultural interchange. Without these small colleges, this cultural interchange would have been far more difficult and much less fruitful.

Mary Baldwin College's experiences are both typical and symbolic of this trend. Long affiliated with the Presbyterian Church and one of Virginia's best women's colleges, its missionary effort began in 1882 when one of its instructors, Charlotte Kemper, left Staunton for a missionary career in the equatorial jungles of Brazil. Her efforts led to the founding of a boys and a girls school which were eventually combined into the Gammon Institute which still survives today. Since that time more than 40 of Mary Baldwin College's alumnae have become missionaries<sup>2</sup>.

The missionary effort which began in earnest in the late 19th century owes much of its inspiration to Mary Julia Baldwin (1829-1897). She became the principal at Augusta Female Seminary (as Mary Baldwin College was then called) in 1863 at a desperate time in the midst of the Civil War, but she saved the school and built it into one of the better women's colleges in the South. According to Kenneth Keller:<sup>3</sup>

*Mary Baldwin's lively faith helped the seminary become a center where Southern women learned about a wider world. And Charlotte Kemper's example inspired others to follow her in overseas careers.*

*Mary Baldwin herself was spurred by the work of her good friend Charlotte. She sent a number of her students overseas and at her death, she left the Presbyterian Church \$10,000 for foreign mission work and another \$5,000 for home missions.*

*By 1900 graduates of Mary Baldwin Seminary had left Staunton for service in China, Japan, Korea and Brazil. Other alumnae missionaries and wives of missionaries went to Cuba, the Philippines, Mexico and the Congo.*

Miss Baldwin's life was imbued with a deep Christian faith and a commitment to educating young women so that they could lead fulfilling and independent lives. According to one of her students, "...It is in the depth and beauty of her religious life that we find the strong, though hidden springs of her influence and power; she followed Christ, she walked humbly with her God. Pestalozzi once said: "The best way for a child to learn to fear God is to see and hear a real Christian," and in many minds the mists of well-nigh half a century have not dimmed the memory of her prayers, her Bible teaching, the sincerity and earnestness of her Christian life..."<sup>4</sup> It is said that from forty to sixty percent of the contributions made by the First Presbyterian Church in Staunton to home and foreign mission work during Miss Baldwin's life came from her<sup>5</sup>.

Today Mary Baldwin's links with the Presbyterian Church are rather nominal, but such was not the case 60 or more years ago when the religious life of the college was very pronounced. Students were required to attend church twice each Sunday and those who failed to do so were required to spend the day in the Infirmary and miss Sunday dinner<sup>6</sup>.

The most active and important of the student organizations at the college at the turn of the century was the campus chapter of the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) dating back to 1894. It was the one organization that all students belonged to and it played a very active role in the religious and social life of the campus. According to the Student Annual of 1894: "The YWCA combines in itself the little volunteer Band and the Missionary Society and takes under its supervision all our religious meetings."<sup>7</sup> It raised money and in that and many other ways was very active in its support of Presbyterian foreign missions. The Mary Baldwin YWCA also raised money for a variety of other causes including the Red Cross, Black schools, and to the European Student Fellowship Fund and Near East Relief after World War I<sup>8</sup>. Thus, it was the YWCA that served as the link between the college and the missionaries abroad.

The world these missionaries faced in Asia was hardly a peaceful or optimistic one. Korea and northern China had been the scene of the bitter Sino-Japanese war of 1894-95 and the savage Russo-Japanese war of 1904-05. Korea was forcibly annexed into the Japanese Empire in 1910. In the early part of this century Japan relentlessly sought to extend its influence in China which in turn was being crushed by civil war and revolution. By the 1930s China was being ravaged by an intensive war between the Japanese and Chinese as well as a civil war between the Nationalists and the Communists. Death, disease, starvation and poverty afflicted Chinese everywhere.

Missionary work began much later in Korea than in China. As late as the early 1880s few foreigners were allowed in Korea and missionaries were liable to execution by a xenophobic Korean government. Missionary work could only begin after a treaty of friendship and commerce had been signed between the United States and Korea. Among the Protestant churches, the Presbyterian church had the honor of sending the first resident missionary



to the long closed land<sup>9</sup>. The Presbyterian church in the US began its interest in Korea through its missionaries in Japan, which was used as a base for visiting Korea. The first person sent by the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions was Dr. John W. Heron, who was appointed in the spring of 1885. However, the board felt that "the time has not yet come for the open proclamation of the Gospel in Korea," and Heron was instructed to go to Japan and there to engage in the study of the Korean language. He delayed and did not reach Korea until June 1885<sup>10</sup>.

While missionary authorities were hesitating over the advisability of immediately opening a mission in Korea, foreign residents in Shanghai and elsewhere in the Far East were flocking to the newest of East Asia's opened countries. Among them was Dr. Horace N. Allen, a medical missionary under the Presbyterian Board assigned to China, who arrived in Korea in the mid-1880s and who later founded the Kwanghyewon Hospital, the first Western medical institution in Korea. It survives to this day and serves as a reminder of the strong influence of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions and the work of its missionaries in Korea<sup>11</sup>.

One of the most interesting aspects of the missionary work in Korea was the establishment of numerous schools. According to one nationalistic Korean historian:

"Perhaps the most significant contribution to modernization of Korean education was that of the Christian missionaries. The private schools which they founded had an influence all out of proportion to the number of their graduates, and several of them are still in existence today."<sup>12</sup>

Many of these schools were founded in the late 1890s and first two decades of this century at a time when the Japanese were tightening their control over Korea until the loss of Korean independence in 1910. To increase their control over Korea, the Japanese promulgated a series of education laws "aimed at spreading a submissive attitude. Japanese teachers were assigned to all government schools, and the curricula of private schools were strictly regulated. No school could be established without government permission and existing schools had to be licensed."<sup>13</sup>

According to Han Woo Keun:

"The progressive, democratic spirit of American Protestantism made the institutions founded by the Japanese the natural breeding places for leaders of the resistance (against Japan. Ed.) With practically all public institutions controlled by Japan, large numbers of young people turned to the Protestant churches and the mission schools. . . Generally speaking, the Christian churches of Korea, especially the Protestant ones, were opposed to Japanese rule and gave whatever help they could to the struggle against it. None of the oppressive Japanese measures ever overcame this resistance and the Japanese, at any rate in the early years of their rule, dared not suppress the missionaries for fear of offending the Western powers."<sup>14</sup>

It was at this time that two schools were founded in Asia by Mary Baldwin College (MBC) graduates. Lilly Alby Bull (class of 1893) established

the Mary Baldwin School for Girls in Kunsan in southern Korea in 1912 while Lily U. Woods (class of 1914) founded the Martha D. Riddle School for Girls in Hwainfu in China not far from Shanghai in 1916.<sup>15</sup>

Mary Baldwin did not provide much if any training in missionary work per se or in Asian studies and languages as it does today although a catalogue in the 1920s lists a course in Far Eastern history. Rather, they received their training directly in the field. Lily Woods and another MBC graduate, Agnes Woods, report in March of 1916 that they have been rigorously studying Chinese for quite some time and had already taken four very rigorous exams.<sup>16</sup> Miss Woods had two classes of Chinese a day, but was putting her training to immediate use by teaching Chinese characters and the Catechism to children and some women. It was only after the missionaries had established themselves and knew more of the language that they were allowed to set up their own schools.

The history of the school in Korea was summarized by Sallie Hamilton McCormick in the 1921 edition of the college's Alumni Bulletin:<sup>17</sup>

*Doubtless there are many M.B.S. girls who, having in one way or other heard of the Mary Baldwin School, Kunsan, Korea have wondered how it was established and named... At a meeting of the Lexington Presbyterial Auxiliary (then called Union) in the Second Presbyterian Church, Staunton, Virginia, in 1907 the need for schools in Korea was presented by Dr. W. H. Forsythe, returned missionary from that country. \$2000, or 40 shares at \$50 each, was the amount necessary for the erection of one of these school buildings. The "Union" gave earnest consideration to this appeal, and before the close of the session that day voted to undertake the raising of \$2000 for a girls' school. The organization was in its infancy at that time, but in two years the entire amount had been contributed by the societies. The Executive Committee of Foreign Missions in Nashville, Tennessee, assigned the Kunsan Girls' School to us.*

*In thinking of a suitable name for the school, several were suggested, but that of "Mary Baldwin" met with greatest favor as Miss Baldwin had always been deeply interested in missions and had made the education of girls her life work....*

*Mrs. Libbie Alby-Bull, an old M.B.S. graduate, had been teaching an ever-increasing class of Korean girls at Kunsan in very uncomfortable quarters for years and was overjoyed at the thought of having a commodious building for the girls and her class work. Some of the native women were her assistants.*

*Before materials could be gathered for the building and work begun, as things move slowly in Korea, the attendance upon the school had increased to such an extent that the plans originally made for a \$2000 building were found to be inadequate, so a larger one was erected at an additional cost which was met by the Executive Committee of Foreign Missions. Ground was broken for the building in 1910.*

*The societies did not abandon the school, however, after having raised the \$2000, but a number of them took permanent shares in the school, or mission at Kunsan, and continued their interest in this way. By November, 1912, the building was completed and occupied....*

*The fact of the existence of a Mary Baldwin School in Korea so impressed itself upon the seminary here in Staunton that the girls were inspired to contribute towards its support, through their missionary organization, between the years 1914-1919, as much as \$1000. The largest amount given in one year being \$500. This, of course, was very substantial help and greatly appreciated.*

*While all mission schools in Korea have labored under difficulties since the Japanese occupation of that country, still, they are going forward... May the clouds soon clear away and usefulness of the school ever increase, and may the spirit of her whose*

name it bears be a constant incentive to consecrated work for these wonderful people.

Miss Bull was still quite optimistic about the future of her school as late as 1928:<sup>18</sup>

*It is the source of genuine satisfaction to see our Korean Mary Baldwin School keeping abreast of the times and having a wider influence year by year... The tide is turning towards our Mission Schools and so we have a full school this year. We carry only two Higher School grades for we had four girls only in the 2nd year of our higher school last year. Of those 4, one entered the third year of Eva Hakrang, the largest and best recognized Girl's School in Seoul. She had to take examinations, of course, but she passed and was duly received. One entered the third year of our Central School at Kwanggin for which the last Auxiliary Southern Presbyterian Church Birthday money was given. One entered the Nurses Training School at our largest Union Hospital, Severance Hospital, in Seoul. The fourth girl was married in April to a promising young man.*

*We have 18 girls in the first year of our Higher Common School this year. The people see the importance of educating daughters now. It was hard work to convince parents 28 years ago that an education was good for girls as well as for boys. That is all changed and for the most understandable reason. All of the desirable young men are seeking in marriage only girls who have been in school. As these young men prefer girls in the higher grades, they are helping us keep girls in schools longer.*

*We feel that we are winning out. We have kept God's word in our curriculum, have our daily devotional exercises, and yet are seeing our girls enter the higher institutions by examination...*

The Kunsan school labored under increasing difficulties as Japan became more and more involved in the war in next-door China. In 1936 Mrs. Bull wrote from China: "School work is hard as government regulations are many... We have been cut and re-cut until it is with the greatest difficulty that any work is carried on."<sup>19</sup> In the late 1930s the school was forced to close and in 1940 Mrs. Bull and her husband returned after a service of 41 years.

Mary Baldwin College's Alumni Society had a Missionary Alumni Chapter which gave an annual scholarship to a child of one of the missionaries it was helping to support. In 1921 it gave a \$50 scholarship to Virginia Bull, eldest daughter of Mrs. Bull. After 5 years the scholarship was passed on to children of missionaries in China.

The school itself was destroyed during the war and all archives were lost. However, a picture of the school and its students indicates that there were as many as 50-100 students there. The school was re-established in another location in the same region after the war, but the name was changed from Mary Baldwin because of pronunciation problems. Today the Young Myung High School traces its history to Libby Bull's enterprise.<sup>20</sup>

We have little information about the Martha D. Riddle School for Girls in China except that it flourished for a time before it, too, was closed forever because of the war between China and Japan in the late 1930s.

There is, however, a letter published in the 1921 Alumni Bulletin from Lily U. Woods that gives a poignant view of a missionary's life in China in the midst of famine, poverty and war. She wrote:<sup>21</sup>

Hwai-an-fu, China  
February 28, 1921

My Dear Friends

The China New Year holiday is just over, and "mid-term" examinations are going on in school now.

We are having an unusually warm spell for this time of year. One is tempted to believe that spring is with us, but I know that cannot be: as our winters are long for the most part, and spring is late in coming where we live in China. This break, however temporary, is more than welcome. We long for the blooming flowers and all the foliage of spring...

Our school was closed for 3 weeks during the China New Year vacation. I spent the holiday in Soochow, a large city to the south of us, with my father. Soochow is one of China's oldest cities, and used to be one of the most fashionable centers of the country. The leading silk and batic shops moved to Shanghai in order to secure the fabric trade.

Soochow is only 2 hours by rail from Shanghai... I thoroughly enjoyed my visit there... My (shopping) list included everything from a movable "baby organ" to matching silk thread!...

China New Year's Day fell on the 8th of February this year. I was in Soochow at that time. For a month the Chinese all over the country take holiday, and have a good time generally. Whoever can possibly afford a new garment is seen in one on New Year's Day. Even the plainest of street children appear in bright colored jackets with bright artificial paper flowers in their hair. The ladies wear beautiful new silks and satins, lined with fur, and have expensive hair ornaments on their heads where they display any amount of handsome jewelry.

The Chinese have a custom that with the end of the old year an end must be made of all old accounts and debts. Therefore "pay day" is the fashion the close of each year. It is not an uncommon sight to see a man, like Diogenes, carrying a lighted lantern in broad daylight on New Year's Day. This goes to say he has not settled his accounts with the old year, and carries the lantern pretending it is still New Year's Eve. The idea is, I think, that it is a bad idea to carry old debts into New Year—which is not such a bad idea. But with every custom is mingled superstition and here, as elsewhere, is the superstitious fear of evil spirits pursuing one.

This week is one planned for the "famine drive" in our city. You have read, of course, of the terrible famine in the north of China. Tens of thousands are facing starvation. And it is hard to see how they can escape in the months to come before the harvest. Immense sums have been contributed everywhere. And still there are more sufferers than supplies to be had. We are thinking of using the method of "tag day" at home in our inland city of 180,000. It will be an innovation for Hwainfu all right, and it will remain to be seen how it will work. Josey and I hope to canvas the homes of the wealthy, with the other ladies here, and get each Chinese lady to contribute her share... We are eager to make a success of this drive and to give generously in our city.

Describing her daily life just prior to the start of the School, Agnes Woods wrote:<sup>22</sup>

*From 8:30 until 10:30 I have with the teacher. We are reading Genesis, Pilgrim's Progress, and the Sacred Edict (a famous Chinese classic). We are going to start "Little Lord Fauntleroy" soon, as a diversion! Then I go to the Girls' School and teach a class in Mark until after eleven. From that time until one I have my little brother William's classes. Directly after dinner I go to the dispensary and help there until four. On Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays I have a class of 8 little girls that I am teaching to read Chinese. They are coming along very well and remarkably when I think of the many weary hours I had over these same old characters last Spring. On Wednesdays, after dispensary, I have a class of little boys and girls in the Catechism. To hear them recite almost deafens one. The zeal of a Chinese scholar is measured by the volume of sound he can make.*

Another graduate of Mary Baldwin, Cornelia Morgan, was a member of the China Inland Mission. The Alumnae News Letter of March, 1929, related the story of her experiences during the civil wars of the 1920s:<sup>23</sup>

*The past two years have been difficult ones... Time after time her house has been occupied by rebels, bandits, and soldiers of all descriptions. She has cooked, and nursed them, the conquerors today who are the conquered tomorrow, entertained them with her Victrola, which seems to be a never-ending source of pleasure to old and young alike, taught and preached, and performed the innumerable duties of everyday life.*

*She was ordered to evacuate, but because she could not take her adopted children, and would not leave them, she refused to budge a step. And there she stayed through the chaos that makes one's hair stand on end to read about, the only white woman for miles around. All this time soldiers came and went, sleeping on the floor, demanding food and bandages, medicine and ointment. She said the iodine had been watered until there was no color and no odor left, but they were satisfied with a small portion and went away contented.*

Today there are still Mary Baldwin alumnae working in Christian service abroad, and the development of new fields outside of missionary service has brought an increased interest and awareness of international affairs among MBC women. The college has a promising program with Doshisha Women's College in Kyoto, Japan.<sup>24</sup>

Thus, it is clear that small Christian colleges played a vital role in providing training for future missionaries. Mary Baldwin College's strong links with the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions made it an obvious source of candidates for service abroad. The strong religious atmosphere at the college, reports and visits from missionaries in the field, and the strong determination of the college's leaders to support foreign missionary work most likely encouraged a few students to opt for missionary careers who might not have otherwise done so. The college also provided funds and a place for a daughter of one or more missionaries a year, thus strengthening links between the missionaries and the college and enhancing opportunities for students to learn more about the East.

Letters, visits and reports from missionaries increased awareness of the East that otherwise might not have existed. While it is difficult if not impossible to compare students' knowledge and understanding of things oriental then and now, it is clear that without the missionary impact there would have been very little interest in the Far East and little if any understanding of that part of the world. It is also probable than when Mary Baldwin's close links with missionaries died with the onset of World War II, this precious tie with Asia was lost and with it much student interest. Only until the college began a Japan program in recent years has student interest in Asian studies revived.

#### Footnotes:

1. John C. Perry et al., Sentimental Imperialists: The American Experience in East Asia (New York, 1982), pp. 44-61.
2. Kenneth Keller, "Miss Baldwin's Missionaries Continue a Century-Old Tradition," in.....
3. *Ibid.*
4. MBC Alumni Bulletin (AB) of 1923, pp. 17-18.
5. Mary Watters, The History of Mary Baldwin College: 1842-1942 (Staunton, 1942), p. 549.
6. *Ibid.*, p. 358.
7. *Ibid.*, p. 162.
8. *Ibid.*, pp. 491-99.
9. Lak-Geon George Paik, The History of Protestant Missions in Korea: 1832-1910 (Seoul, 1929), p. 85.
10. *Ibid.*, pp. 84-85.
11. *Ibid.* and Han Woo Keun, The History of Korea (Seoul, 1970), p. 458.
12. Han, pp. 456-57.
13. *Ibid.*, p. 457.
14. Han, p. 458-59.
15. Martha Riddle (1861-1919) was a very popular history professor at Mary Baldwin for three decades.
16. AB of 1916, pp. 32-33.
17. AB of 1921, pp. 28-29.
18. AB of 1928, p. 14.
19. Watters, p. 549.
20. Interview with Dr. Pat Menk, December 22, 1984.
21. AB of 1921, pp. 55-57.
22. AB of 1916, pp. 32-33.
23. Watters, p. 549.
24. Keller article.

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Compiled by Elizabeth F. Moody

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